



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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#### INSETS.

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## Summary.

THE MEDICINE-STAMP ACTS continue to absorb interest.

On p. 9 we give notes of the case in which Mr. Bonsey argued that limited companies are entitled, like individuals, to Exemption 3.

On p. 18 we show that Mr. Bonsey is wrong, the question having been decided to the contrary in *Smith v. Mason*.

On p. 10 we report a case heard in London this week, in which a fine was imposed for insufficient stamping. The Magistrate gave the Inland Revenue a hint about reforming procedure when articles are purchased by officers.

On p. 30 will be found a report of the Pharmaceutical Council discussion on a motion by Mr. Wootton to appoint a deputation to call at Somerset House. The Council referred the matter to a committee.

On p. 36 is a brief discussion by the North British Branch on the matter. The decision there was also *avizandum*.

On p. 15 we give the gist of what provincial chemists say.

On p. 23 are several letters of varied import, well worth answering.

On p. 19 replies to queries show the troubles and give points.

On p. 19 we ask qualified chemists to think well before calling for repeal of the Acts or revoking the judicial decision. We again suggest that the time for using old labels should be extended to January 1, 1904, and that the Pharmaceutical Council ought to have moved in this direction.

NEW STORE-PRICES are given on p. 4.

SOME good formulae will be found on p. 33.

A NUMBER of useful books are reviewed on p. 40.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS are noted on p. 2.

THE new way of getting fertilisers from the air is described on p. 37.

MESSRS. J. N. TRENEER AND G. M. J. COLE are the new Bell scholars (p. 32).

THE latest particulars about the B.P.C. meeting in Bristol will be found on p. 20.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL has more money at present than it requires (p. 30).

MR. W. L. CURRIE has been appointed to the vacant seat on the Pharmaceutical Council (p. 32).

THE Previous Question is explained by "Xrayser" (p. 17) and by Mr. Boa (p. 24) in two ways.

THE Birmingham analyst claims that he may test official medicines by unofficial methods (p. 2).

No more has been heard of the Poisons Bill, and the rumour is regarded as a *ballon-d'essai* (p. 13).

MR. D. B. DOTT is the new Chairman of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society (p. 35).

FURTHER particulars of the proposed South African tariff are given on p. 36. The Cape agrees to it. Johannesburg chemists are disappointed.

PROFESSOR HART, of the Lafayette College (formerly editor of the *American Chemical Journal*), was entertained by London chemists this week (p. 25).

RECTIFIED LINIMENT OF SOAP is the legal standard, so Mr. D'Eyncourt has decided in the Boots case, and he seems not to have left a loophole for appeal (p. 11).

THE Aldersgate Street poisoning-case inquiry has ended in a verdict of misadventure, with sympathy to the chemist and his assistant who gave liq. strych. hyd. for liq. morph. hyd. (p. 38).

FISH-LIVER OIL, which is offered as a substitute for, or adulterant of, cod-liver oil, agrees with it in some respects. Messrs. J. C. Umney and C. T. Bennett show in an article on p. 37 how it differs.

MR. S. R. ATKINS, the new President of the Pharmaceutical Society, delivered an eloquent address on the occasion of the presentation of the School prizes. This and his portrait are given in the section beginning p. 33.

THE half-yearly stocktaking has interfered with business this week. Shellac is the only article exhibiting any life, and the "boom" continues. Ammon. carb. and santonium are dearer. Insect-flowers are cheap just now, ergot is easier, and linseed is lower. At the vanilla auctions full prices were paid for common, fine quality being easier (p. 25).

VOLUME Sixty-three begins with this number, but the "C. & D." is as sixteen in vitality.



## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

The Society of Arts held a *conversazione* in the Gardens of the Royal Botanic Society on Tuesday evening, June 30.

At Rochdale on June 29, Walter Heap, described as a chemist, was sent to prison for neglecting to support his wife and five children.

There is a famine of motor-spirit in England, owing to the enormous quantity sent over to Ireland in connection with the Gordon-Bennett motor-race.

The Salford Town Council has accepted the tenders of Messrs. R. K. Laken & Co. for carbolic-powder at 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton, and the United Alkali Company (Limited), Liverpool, for chloride of lime at 3*l.* 10*s.* per ton.

Some Plymouth chemists are helping, through the local newspapers, to keep up a discussion therein about chemists in Devon making 1,000 per cent. profit. Somebody bought 2 oz. of boric acid and paid 6*d.* for it, so vented his indignation through the Press.

At the Hampshire Assizes, Winchester, on June 29, Charles Cameron MacGregor (42), described as a dispenser, was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour for stealing a letter containing a postal-order at Itchen, Southampton, while acting as an auxiliary postman.

At Exeter City Assize on June 26, William John Hingston (32) was sentenced to three years' penal servitude for breaking into the dwelling-house of Mr. W. J. Bray (representative of Messrs. A. de St. Dalmas, medical-plaster manufacturers, Leicester), in Silver Terrace, Exeter, and stealing a large quantity of jewellery.

At Nottingham on June 24, a man named Geo. Dignam was fined 30*s.*, or fourteen days' hard labour, for obtaining money by false pretences from two small shopkeepers. Dignam represented himself as the agent and traveller for Messrs. Wood & Co., of Sheffield, and he sold the prosecutors a quantity of teething and fever powders which Mr. Ambrose Middleton, chemist, Nottingham, said he had analysed and found to be granulated sugar coloured with a little vegetable colouring-matter.

At the Brompton County Court, on June 26, before Judge Stonor, Miss E. Wheatley, residing at Loughton, Essex, as executrix under the will of her late brother, Mr. W. H. Wheatley, dentist, 120 Harley Street, W., obtained judgment for 2*l.* 2*s.* against Captain Cunliffe Owen, R.A., 138 Cromwell Road, S.W., the claim in respect to remodelling and repairing a dental plate. Defendant complained that the plate made by the plaintiff's brother broke in two within twelve months, but the Judge said he would have to counterclaim in respect of such a thing as that, and awarded half the amount claimed.

### King's Birthday Honours.

King Edward VII. was born of November 9, 1841, but he prefers to keep his birthday—officially, at all events—on the day Queen Victoria was born. Friday, June 26, was the day set for it this year, and many honours were bestowed on the occasion. A few names familiar in the drug-trade occurred in the list. Sir Marcus Samuel, Lord Mayor of London, gets a baronetcy. He is head of the firm who hold the camphor-trade in the hollow of their hand. Amongst the new knights are Mr. A. D. Fripp, F.R.C.S., one of the King's Surgeons, of Guy's; Dr. Stephen Mackenzie, of Cavendish Square, who has had much to do with the Finzen light treatment at the London Hospital; Dr. E. C. Perry, Superintendent of Guy's Hospital; and Dr. P. Heron Watson, of Edinburgh, who is a member of the General Medical Council. Dr. Daniel Morris, Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, and Dr. Patrick Manson, Medical Adviser to the Colonial Office, are promoted to the Knighthood of St. Michael and St. George—the latter for special services in connection with tropical diseases.

### Medical Progress in Egypt.

The Khedive, who has been in London, received on Sunday, at the Right Hon. Sir Ernest Cassel's residence, a deputation from the British Committee of the Egyptian Medical Congress comprising the President (Sir Frederick Treves), Sir Douglas Powell, Sir Thomas Smith, Sir William Church, Mr. Watson Cheyne, Mr. Reginald Harrison, and Mr. Page May. In the course of the interview the Khedive, speaking in English, stated his conviction of the enormous advantages which had accrued to Egypt in recent years from medical work, and particularly his appreciation of that of the British doctors in Egypt. Now the *fellaheen*, instead of suspecting or even refusing sanitary interferences, actually welcome and seek purified-water supplies, are active in providing and using disinfectants, and are rapidly adopting the latest hygienic measures.

### London Chamber of Commerce.

At the annual meeting of the Chamber held last week at the Cannon Street Hotel under the Presidency of Lord Brassey, the report, which was adopted, stated that the Chemical-trade Section of the Chamber had held five meetings during the year. At the first meeting Mr. John C. Umney and Mr. D. Lloyd Howard were elected Chairman and Deputy-Chairman of the Section respectively. At the meeting a resolution was passed that in the opinion of the Section the Patent Law required amendment in many ways. The main question which had received the attention of the Section was that of duty-free alcohol for manufacturing-purposes (see *C. & D.*, March 23, page 511). The paper on "Duty-free Alcohol for Industrial Purposes," read before the Society of Chemical Industry by Mr. Thomas Tyrer (see *C. & D.*, March 7, page 409), was also referred to.

### William Martindale Memorial.

A meeting of the Committee was held on June 25, Mr. Carteighe in the chair. Mr. Gulliver and Mr. G. S. Taylor were also present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Several letters of apology for non-attendance were received. The Treasurer reported that after having paid Mr. Taubman for the bust and for the die for the proposed Pharmacy Medal and certain incidental expenses, there was a balance of a little over 60*l.* The Committee resolved:

1. That the Treasurer be authorised to arrange with Mr. Taubman for providing a suitable pedestal for the bust.
2. That the Council for the Pharmaceutical Society be asked to accept the Martindale Medal and to award it as a Silver Medal in Pharmacy in connection with the Pharmacy Course of the Society's School of Pharmacy. Further, that the Council be asked to accept the balance of the Fund in trust, with a view to ensure the annual award of the Medal in perpetuity.
3. That, subject to the approval of the Council, the bust should be unveiled and formally presented, with the medal-die, to the Council, through its President, at the inaugural Sessional meeting on October 1, 1903.

### A Local Botanist.

A recent issue of the *Ripon Gazette* contains a list of seventy-four botanical specimens collected by a local botanist, Mr. T. Pratt, of Ivy House, Borrage, Ripon, on an evening walk along the banks of the river Laver. A more beautiful district for English flora can scarcely be found than that around Ripon, and Mr. Pratt is an enthusiast. He is a M.R.C.V.S., and has made a lifelong study of botany, a Ripon subscriber informs us. Mr. Pratt has the British flora "perfect," according to the same informant, and has made a special study of the grasses, of which he possesses a unique collection. He is ever ready to explain and impart his knowledge to Riponians, among whom he has lived all his life. Pharmaceutical botanists sojourning in, or interested in, the district might interview the veterinary botanist to their advantage.

### The B.P. Test for Spirit of Sal Volatile.

In his quarterly report Mr. J. F. Liverseege, F.I.C., Ph.C., public analyst for Birmingham, mentions with reference to spirit of volatile that the B.P. requires this drug to be prepared from ammonia, ammonium carbonate, alcohol, water, and essential oils. The ingredients ordered are equal to 308 grams of normal ammonium carbonate and about



1.10 gram of free ammonia in each 100 c.c. of the spirit. Two of the three samples analysed during the quarter gave 3.00 and 3.04 grams of normal ammonium carbonate per 100 c.c., while the average of the previous eighteen samples was 3.02 grams, and Mr. Liverseege considers that 3.00 is a reasonable standard for carbonate. The two samples mentioned contain 1.01 and 1.18 gram of free ammonia per 100 c.c., and the average of the previous eighteen samples was 1.03 gram. A third sample, as the result of three determinations, was found to contain 2.15 grams of normal ammonium carbonate per 100 c.c., while the ammonia amounted to 1.31 gram. Mr. Liverseege certified it to be "deficient of about one-quarter of the proper quantity of normal ammonium carbonate, while the quantity of ammonia was somewhat in excess." He did not, he adds, use the Pharmacopœia test for carbonate, as his experience, and that of other analysts, has shown it to be untrustworthy, and the quantity of the sample received was not sufficient to allow him to waste it on useless tests. The Health Committee decided to caution the vendor, and when this was done he produced a certificate from another analyst, who stated that the sample satisfied the tests of the B.P., and therefore could not be considered to be adulterated. At Mr. Liverseege's request a third sample was sent to another public analyst, who reported that the quantity of carbonate in it was 32 per cent. below the strength of B.P. spirit, this result being somewhat less favourable to the vendor than his own. The reason why the second analyst did not agree with him, Mr. Liverseege says, was evidently the defective Pharmacopœia test. "I consider," he adds, "that a public analyst may use any suitable test to ascertain if the drug is of the nature, substance, and quality of the article demanded by the purchaser, whether such test is contained in the official volume or not. My analytical results suggest that the sample had been unskillfully prepared, and that when the makers found it deficient in alkalinity they added a little strong ammonia instead of ammonium carbonate."

The samples of wood charcoal received contained 52, 58, and 100 per cent. of ash. The B.P. requires that the article shall not yield more than 7.5 per cent. of ash. The third sample was certified to be adulterated, and the vendor undertook to destroy it. Four samples each of cod-liver oil, castor oil, and Epsom salt, two of tincture of arnica, and one of spirit of camphor were found to be adulterated.

#### Guardians and Drug-supplies.

The Monmouth Guardians have accepted the tender of Mr. Matthews, chemist, for the supply of certain commodities specified.

Messrs. Lester & Son, of Bedworth, have been appointed workhouse chemists for the ensuing quarter by the Foleshill Board of Guardians.

At a meeting of the Romsey Board of Guardians it was agreed to refund to Dr. S. Buchall the amount spent by him for antitoxin for use in diphtheria-cases.

The Dudley Board of Guardians has declined to accede to the request of the medical officer for a re-arrangement of the system of the supply of drugs to the workhouse.

At a meeting of the Stroud Board of Guardians on June 22, Mr. Coley, in discussing an order for a 20-gal. cask of disinfectant, asked if there was any reason why the order should not be given to a local chemist. It was highly desirable that this should be done, he said, if the article could be obtained at the same price. The Board decided to ascertain if Mr. Coley's suggestion could be adopted.

The Bootle Board of Guardians on June 27 discussed a recommendation by the Local Government Board that the Guardians should themselves purchase drugs and expensive medicines needed for the workhouse instead of the medical officer providing them out of his salary. It was thought by the Guardians that the change would not be beneficial, as the drugs would deteriorate by keeping, and the Board declined to adopt the Local Government Board's recommendation.

At a meeting of the Dover Corporation on June 24, the Town Clerk stated that he had seen Mr. Thompson, who had sent in the only tender for chemists' goods. Mr. Thompson

explained that there had been competition in former years and that accounted for the large reduction in price for the last two years. Finding that there was no longer the competition, he said, he would put in a tender which he considered would be fairly remunerative. Mr. Thompson showed invoices for goods supplied under the contract at a loss. On the motion of Sir William Crundall it was decided to invite fresh tenders.

At a meeting of the Rochdale Board of Guardians, on June 25, a letter was received from the Local Government Board enclosing the following communication received from Mr. H. Woodward, pharmaceutical chemist, 73 Yorkshire Street, Mr. Wm. Highley, chemist and druggist, Drake Street, and Messrs. J. J. Thomas & Son, chemists, 24 Yorkshire Street:

We are writing to draw your attention to the question of the supply of drugs to the Rochdale Workhouse. Previous to the last time the Guardians have given the local chemists an opportunity of tendering, but since the end of the March quarter no tender-forms for drugs have been issued, neither has there been any public advertisement for drugs. We shall be glad to know if such a proceeding is legal.

The Workhouse Committee resolved that the Clerk should inform the Local Government Board that the annual expenditure on drugs and infirmary requisites had attained to so large an amount that the Guardians, after much consideration, had found it advisable from a business point of view to obtain tenders from manufacturers and wholesale dealers, and that the present contract was entered into on consideration of such tenders. In the discussion which ensued, Mr. Hoyle said he thought that some reason for the Board's decision should be given to the chemists of the town. In his opinion facilities should be given to the local chemists to tender. The Rev. T. W. Wareham said the reason the Drugs Committee had taken the course they had was that the Board now spent 1,000% a year on drugs and requisites, and the committee thought the wholesale houses would be able to complete the order more satisfactorily than the retailer could do. They had had evidence before them that the wholesalers could give them better terms than the local chemists, and it became the Board to practise economy and see that the ratepayers got the best return for their money. The action of the committee was approved.

#### Sheffield Notes.

Mr. Andrew Graham, chemist and druggist, of New Street, has gone away for a short holiday. He has locked up his shop and hung out a notice, "Reopen 11th July."

After being used as a chemist's shop for upwards of seventy years, Mr. Ward's old premises on the Moor have now been opened, after alterations, by a firm of cash grocers.

The Corporation Parks Committee have arranged a series of "Court and Alley" concerts for the benefit of the inhabitants of the congested districts of the city, and one of these successful concerts was held on June 25 in Court 2, Wentworth Street, Upperthorpe, with Councillor A. Russell Fox, chemist and druggist, as chairman.

The flags have been flying very gaily in Sheffield during the past week, in honour of the state visit of the Lord Mayor of London, who with the Sheriffs, and many representatives of the Metropolitan Companies and Guilds, has been down to lay the foundation-stone of the new University buildings at Western Bank. The proceedings were held on Tuesday in beautiful weather, and among the guests of the Corporation were Mr. and Mrs. Newsholme and Mr. and Mrs. A. Russell Fox.

Local pharmacists are sharing the general regret caused by the loss of Dr. Robertson, medical officer of health for the city, who has obtained the appointment of medical officer at Birmingham, a berth worth 1,000% a year—an increase of 250% on his present salary. Dr. Robertson has been a distinguished guest at the annual dinners of the local Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society ever since entering on his duties here, and his genial presence will be much missed in the future.

#### Alleged Embezzlement.

At the West London Police Court on June 27, Rene de Layen (30), described as a dentist, of Percy Road, Broad-



stairs, was charged on remand with embezzling various sums of money belonging to his employer, Mr. W. Valentine Wright, chemist and druggist, of 25 The Broadway, Hammersmith, W. The prosecutor said he engaged the defendant in March, 1901, at a salary of 2*l.* 5*s.*, with commission, to manage the dentistry part of his business. He left his employment over a month ago, and since then the witness had discovered serious deficiencies in the accounts. In three different cases the accused (said the witness) received payments from customers—amounting in all to over 10*l.*—and did not account for the money in the books. In cross-examination the prosecutor said “he presumed the accused was not a qualified dentist.” He knew his business. He (prosecutor) used to be qualified, but let his certificate lapse. He learnt that, after leaving his employ, prisoner went round to customers to induce them to leave prosecutor. The accused had absolute discretion as regards fees, which ranged from a shilling to five guineas. In answer to further questions, the prosecutor admitted that he had made a mistake as regards one of the charges of embezzlement, and he withdrew that particular case. Accused was committed for trial.

#### Tax on Pills.

This is the title under which the *Daily Express* publishes the following:

The Inland Revenue authorities have informed the Pharmaceutical Society that the stamp-duty of 1½*d.* per package, which is now charged upon all patent medicines, will, after September 30 next, be rigidly enforced upon all drugs or medicines sold in packages labelled as remedies for specific diseases.

This means that 1*l.* boxes of antibilious, liver, compound rhubarb, and various other kinds of pills must bear a 1½*d.* stamp, thereby bringing the cost to the consumer up to 2½*d.*

In an interview with an *Express* representative, a well-known chemist said:

“The idea is ridiculous. For example, I can label a box ‘bilious pills,’ but am liable if I say ‘antibilious.’”

“‘Arnicated solvent corn and bunion plaster’ is allowed, but I was recently fined for using the words ‘Arnicated solvent-plaster for corns and bunions.’ A distinction without a difference.”

Chemists sell such quantities of pills in pennyworths to the poorer class that they consider it will be a great hardship if the cost is increased to 2½*d.*

“A well-known chemist” does not know the law, but that according to Mr. Bonsey, is not surprising.

#### Birmingham Notes.

The local Association is to have an outing to Holt Fleet on July 14.

Messrs. Freeman and Prosser are reported to have joined hands in the matter of drug-spice and condiments for poultry, dogs, &c.

Messrs. Boots have had a serious loss in the matter of window-glass at their New Street establishment, an expensive base mirror being also broken.

#### Store-prices.

The following alterations in prices appear in the July price-list of the Civil Service Supply Association:

ADDED TO STOCK.—Cod-liver oil, best Norwegian; per bottle—8-oz., 1*s.* 2*d.*; 16-oz., 2*s.* 2*d.*; 32-oz., 4*s.* 2*d.* Sparklet syphons, with 1 doz. bulbs for charging, 4*s.* 4*d.*; extra Sparklet bulbs, per box of 1 doz., 1*s.* 4*d.* Perfume sprays, English glass, engraved—each, white, 3*s.* 2*d.*; ruby, green, or puce, 3*s.* 5*d.* Quassine, per tube, 5*d.*; quassia-chips, per lb., 4*d.* “Carbolacene” disinfecting blocks, 1*s.* each.

ADVANCED.—Acid, tartaric, per lb., 1*s.* 4*d.* Brand’s beef-essence, per tin, 1*s.* 3*d.* and 2*s.* 5*d.* Camomile flowers, per lb., 1*s.* 6*d.* Cod-liver oil, De Jongh’s, per bot., 2*s.* 2*d.* and 4*s.* 2*d.* Cod-liver oil emulsion (Scott’s), per bot., 1*s.* 11*d.* and 3*s.* 8*d.* Cream of tartar, per lb., 1*s.* Disinfectants—Calvert’s carbolic fluid, per bot., 8*d.*; do., do., powder, per tin, 8*d.* Enemas, Ingram’s, each, 5*s.* 5*d.*

PRICES REDUCED.—Acid, citric, powder or crystals, per lb., 1*s.* 4*d.* Sugar of milk, per lb., 9*d.*

Calvert’s carbolic preparations and Plasmon preparations are advanced.

In the Army and Navy Stores’ price-circular for this month, Calvert’s carbolic acid No. 5 is quoted at 8*d.* per bot., and Calvert’s carbolic powder at 8*d.* per tin; Plasmon is 9*d.*, 1*s.* 4*d.*, and 2*s.* 6*d.* per packet, and massage rollers for the face (Simon) are now 16*s.* 6*d.* and 22*s.* 6*d.* per case.

#### Fires.

On June 30, a fire was discovered at the shop of Mr. Phillips, chemist, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton. On the arrival of the fire brigade it was found that a quantity of straw and cases were ablaze. The flames were extinguished, however, before any serious damage was done.

On June 28, the Wolverhampton Fire Brigade received a call to the chemical-works of Messrs. Bailey & Sons, Horsley Fields, Wolverhampton. On their arrival it was discovered that a quantity of oil and sulphur in a store-room at the lower end of the premises was on fire. As the pouring of water on the flames would only have made matters worse, sand and ashes were used to extinguish them. The damage, fortunately, was not extensive.

#### Cricket.

London College of Pharmacy v. Metropolitan College of Pharmacy.—Played at Nunhead on June 27, when the London College won by 45 runs.

Notts Chemists’ C.C. v. Barton C.C.—The Nottingham Chemists’ Club had a most pleasant outing on June 25, when they went to Barton to meet the village club. The party proceeded to Beeston by train, whence they took boat to Barton, a pretty little village on the river Trent. The visitors were given a cordial reception, and tea was served on the ground. The chemists made a very sorry display, being all out in the first innings for 9. After putting on 87 for seven wickets, the home team retired.

#### To be Reinstated.

At a meeting of the Cardiff Board of Guardians on June 27, a letter was read from the Local Government Board with reference to the recent public inquiry into allegations against Mr. W. B. Taylor, dispenser of medicines, whom the Guardians had dismissed. The letter stated that the Board, after considering Mr. Bircham’s report, did not consider they would be justified in assenting to Mr. Taylor’s dismissal; they therefore removed the suspension, and directed that he should forthwith resume the discharge of his office. The Board had arrived at this conclusion with some hesitation, as there was evidence of several cases in which medicines had not been made up in accordance with the medical officer’s prescriptions. The Board were, however, prepared to give Mr. Taylor the benefit of the uncertainty which arose in this connection, in consequence of the inadequate provision at the dispensary for properly administering the duties of that department. The Board called upon the Guardians to take the necessary steps to put an end to the irregularities which were said to exist. Upon the motion of the Chairman, the Dispensary Committee was instructed to consider the steps it should take and then report to the Board.

#### The Week’s Poisonings.

Twelve fatalities from poisoning are reported since our last issue, six of which were cases of misadventure. Three laudanum-cases occurred, at Cowpen Quay (where a woman named Garrett took an overdose), at Leicester (where a draper named Scott accidentally poisoned himself), and at Sheffield. At the last-named town the victim was a master-joiner named Burton. At the inquest a juryman asked whether deceased had signed the poisons-book when he bought the laudanum. The Coroner said the poisons-book need not be signed for laudanum. It might be placed in the first part of the schedule, but he was afraid that would cause a lot of bother to people having to take witnesses every time they wanted a pennyworth, although if it would save lives it ought to be done. Mrs. Keys, landlady of the Richard’s Arms, at Cilfynydd, poisoned herself with carbolic acid, and the same poison was taken by a Birmingham painter named Haywood in mistake for beer. According to the evidence at the inquest, deceased was assisting to disinfect a house in Saltley Road, and he used for this purpose a quantity of carbolic acid. This was supplied by a chemist in a pint bottle properly labelled. During the afternoon he sent for some beer, which was served in a bottle similar in appearance to that which contained the poison, and in mistake he swallowed the acid. He died on the way to the hospital. Death was certified to be accidental. A woman named Garrett, living with her



brother-in-law, a veterinary surgeon, in Camden Town, poisoned herself with hydrocyanic acid. A Bristol glass-beveller named Edwin Stills, died from cyanide of potassium self-administered. A girl named Garden, at Stourbridge, was accidentally given a belladonna-liniment to drink in place of medicine, and died from the effects. Morphine in overdose caused the death at Bournemouth of Dr. George Bucher Beale, a retired navy surgeon. Charlotte Copeland was knocked down by a bicycle in Clapham Road on May 23. She was taken to St. Thomas's Hospital, where she died about a fortnight afterwards from, as was supposed, the effects of the accident. A *post-mortem* examination revealed that death was due to poisoning. Dr. Freyberger the L.C.C. pathologist, stating at the inquest that owing to the presence of a large quantity of fixed chlorides, death was probably due to hydrochloric-acid poisoning. The jury added a rider to their verdict strongly condemning the action of the hospital authorities for serious neglect of their responsibilities. Mr. J. C. Malcolm conducted an inquiry at Leeds on June 29 relative to the death of Sarah Ellen Firth. From the evidence of the husband it appeared that deceased had been ill for several weeks, and was admitted into the infirmary. She had suffered from delusions. About a month ago she was in the habit of taking sleeping-powders, and he had to stop her. On the advice of a medical man she was taken to the infirmary in an unconscious state. She died within a few hours. The symptoms were those of poisoning from headache-powders. The jury returned a verdict that deceased's death followed upon coma, caused by the prolonged use of sleeping-powders. A lunatic in St. Andrew's private asylum, Northampton, ate some yew-leaves, and died from the effects. Last week three boys near Chester were found to be suffering from poisoning. They said they had eaten some poisonous berries, and it is surmised that it was the green seedpods of laburnum that caused the alarming symptoms.

## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### The Royal Visit.

The Lord Lieutenant has informed the Court of the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland that their proposed address has been submitted to and approved by the King.

Sir Thomas Robinson, Kingstown (of Messrs. Hayes, Conyngnam & Robinson, chemists), has been elected Vice-President of the committee appointed in Kingstown for the reception of the King and the decoration of the streets of the township during the Royal visit.

### Personal.

Miss Jennie T. Wells, daughter of Mr. W. F. Wells, ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, is announced by the Board of Trinity College, Dublin, to have secured "high place" at the midsummer Entrance examination of that University. Miss Wells, who is scarcely eighteen years old, is one of the first of the ladies who have availed themselves of the recently accorded privilege of graduating in the Dublin University.

### Drug-tender.

The Governors of the Castlebar District Lunatic Asylum are asking for tenders for the supply of medicines and medical appliances. Tenders must be sent in before July 11.

### Business Change.

The druggist-shop of Mr. J. McSwiney, 61 Lower Dorset Street, Dublin, close to the canal bridge, has been taken over by Mr. Salisbury, who is now carrying on business in the premises.

### Hints from Guardians.

Owing to the great demand for spraying-machines this year, due to the lateness of the potato-crop, various Boards of Guardians in Ireland are recommending local traders to lay in a good stock of copper sulphate and lime.

### Strychnine-poisoning.

A death from strychnine at Ballymena was investigated by the Coroner for Mid-Antrim district this week. The deceased—a young woman—appears to have deliberately taken a solution containing a considerable quantity of strychnine, and expired after an hour of fearful agony.

### Advertising "Bovril."

Bovril (Limited) have given further proof of versatility in the matter of advertising their product, as a supplement to Barton's log-rolling on Bovril tins in Irish rivers during the past few weeks, by some balloon ascents by Capt. G. A. S. Smallbone and Captain Arthur Williams. The balloon is named "King Edward VII.," the name being painted in large letters, while three banners, 30 feet by 9 feet, are displayed, each bearing the word "Bovril." The balloon made ascents on Thursday at points over the Gordon-Bennett motor-racecourse in Kildare, and also in the Phoenix Park, Dublin.

## Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Business Change.

Mr. W. R. Innes, chemist and druggist, Lossiemouth, has purchased the business in High Street, Port-Gordon, formerly carried on by the late Mr. Alexander Pirie.

### Poisoning.

Last week a woman was found unconscious in West Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, and was conveyed to the Royal Infirmary. She was found to be suffering from laudanum-poisoning, and, notwithstanding the efforts of the medical staff, she died three hours after admission.

### A Suicide.

On June 24 the dead body of a young woman about twenty-five years of age was found at Sauchie Road, close to Crieff, and an empty bottle, which apparently had contained poison, was by her side. The body was subsequently identified as that of Miss Jemima McGregor, housekeeper to a farmer, of Crosshead, near Crieff. Deceased had written a letter stating that she intended to commit suicide.

### Edinburgh Chemists' Golf Club.

The Hon. President of this Club (Mr. D. Brown) has presented the Club with a gold medal, to be played for annually under "Bogey" conditions. The first competition is to be played on the Braids during the week ending Saturday, July 11. The winner will become the holder of the medal for the year, and have his name inscribed upon it, and will receive a miniature of the medal in gold. The second will receive three balls, the third two balls, and the fourth one ball. Further particulars may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. James Stott, 45 Comely Bank Avenue, Edinburgh.

### Glasgow Notes.

Trade is so unprecedentedly dull that staffs are being reduced even in small shops.

The draw for the semi-final Bowlers' Prize presented by Burroughs Wellcome & Co. has resulted as follows: Mr. Cairncross or Houston *v.* Mr. Moir or Watson; Mr. Walker *v.* Mr. Wallace.

Mr. T. Dunlop's appointment to the Vice-Chairmanship of the Executive of the N.B. Branch is highly acceptable to his Glasgow *confères*, who are familiar with and appreciative of his services to pharmacy on scientific, trade, and political lines.

It is probable that the Glasgow Associations will follow the example of Dundee and other centres in making representations to local M.P.s as to the new restrictions on trade which the Inland Revenue regulation as to ailment-name labels is likely to inflict.



The delegates from the G. and W. of S. Pharmaceutical Association to the B.P.C. and the annual Federation meeting will comprise Messrs. W. L. Currie, R. Brodie, J. Foster, T. Maben, and J. McMillan.

The following is a literal transcript from a bill in an East-end chemist's window:

Mr. —,  
Consulting Chemist,  
has returned again.  
Hours, 8 to 10.

It need hardly be explained that Mr. — is not an analyst.

Chemists with soda-water fountains are prominent advertisers in the local Press at present, but "Old Sol" refuses to reciprocate.

#### An Alarming Accident.

On June 27 considerable consternation was caused by the report that a fire had broken out in the premises of Messrs. W. & R. Hatrick & Co., wholesale chemists and druggists, Renfield Street, Glasgow. This firm's premises were burned to the ground five years ago, an explosion occurring during the progress of the fire and killing four members of the fire-brigade. On the present occasion, although the brigade were summoned, there was actually no outbreak of fire. What happened was that a shelf in the basement had given way, and several large carboys of acid had fallen to the floor, spilling the contents and creating a dense volume of fumes. On account of these fumes the firemen were unable to enter the basement, and for a time there was no means of knowing whether or not the premises were on fire. As a precautionary measure, however, the tramway traffic in Renfield Street was stopped, and policemen kept the public from approaching too near the premises. Ultimately, by pumping air into the cellar, the fumes were dispersed, and all cause for alarm was soon at an end. It is estimated that damage amounting to about 400*l.* has been caused to the stock.

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**CHLORATE-EXPLOSION.**—While workmen were unloading casks of chlorate of potassium at Marseilles, on July 1, ninety casks exploded, doing serious damage.

**THE LADY PHARMACY STUDENTS** in France for 1903 number 95, of whom 94 are Frenchwomen. Fifty of them are at the Paris School of Pharmacy, 6 at Montpellier, 4 at Lille, and 4 at Lyons. Few of these "sweet girl graduates" actually finish their days seriously behind a pharmacy counter.

**DR. LOIR**, who was sent to Bulawayo to establish a Pasteur Institute, was invited by the Rhodesian Government to study the destruction of termites or white ants, which are calculated to do 10,000*l.* worth of damage annually in Bulawayo alone. He experimented with sulphurous gas, with excellent results; and Mr. Pease, his assistant, is continuing the experiments.

**ROMANTIC SUICIDE OF A LABORATORY ATTENDANT.**—Last week the corpses of a man and a woman were fished out of the river Garonne at Toulouse, the arms being tied together with a handkerchief. They were carried to the Morgue, and have been identified as Justin Vacquier, "garçon pharmacien" at Foix (aged thirty-one), and Mlle. Marie Pédoussat, his sister-in-law, a girl of eighteen, with whom Vacquier appears to have deserted his wife and four little children at Foix on May 21.

**RECRUITS FOR THE HOSPITAL PHARMACIES.**—On Saturday, June 27, the annual "repartition" of the first-year pharmacy internes took place in the amphitheatre of the Assistance Publique. After the old hands have decided on their berths (remaining in the same hospital or passing to another as suits them best) the new men are distributed to fill the gaps. Thus, at Beaujon Hospital M. Léger has now three new assistants, Dr. Viron four at the Salpêtrière, M. Bour-

quelot two at Laennec, and so on. There were forty-four new men in all; about the average number.

**THE EFFECTS OF RADIUM.**—"Radium, that curious metal," according to a Parisian daily, has just performed a new miracle. "An assembly of grave savants in the Sorbonne was absolutely electrified by a brilliant Sc.D. thesis, of which radium formed the subject." The thesis in question was submitted by Madame Sklowska-Curie, wife of Professor Curie, of the Paris Municipal School of Industrial Physics and Chemistry, who recently lectured in London. Madame Curie was warmly congratulated by the "electrified" examiners in question.

**THE NUMBER OF PHARMACY STUDENTS** in France in 1903 is given by the "Administrative Bulletin of Public Instruction" as follows:—Superior School: Paris 1,394, Montpellier 213, Nancy 67—total 1,674. Mixed Faculties: Lyons 273, Bordeaux 237, Toulouse 189, Lille 153—total 852. Schools in full exercise: Algiers 58, Marseilles 208, Nantes 106, Rennes 113—total 485. The preparatory schools account for 579 students—Amiens 42, Angers 52, Besançon 42, Caen 53, Clermont 59, Dijon 44, Grenoble 51, Limoges 50, Poitiers 42, Rheims 23, Rouen 80, and Tours 41. The grand total is 3,590. This includes twenty-five foreigners.

**FRENCH PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES.**—Statements like that of M. Beauregard (that a 1 per cent. tax would bring over 200,000*l.* per annum into the French Exchequer) are not easy to check. Some figures as to the export trade may, however, be given, although necessarily approximate and not fully up to date. It was stated at the 1900 meeting of French Proprietary-medicine Dealers that France's exports were something like 600,000*l.* per annum. About a third went to South America and Mexico. The French Colonies took some 80,000*l.* worth. Next to Brazil and Mexico, England seemed to be France's best customer here as elsewhere, it being stated that the United Kingdom took some 225 tons yearly (say, 40,000*l.* or 50,000*l.* worth) for home consumption only.

**ANALYSIS OF URINE.**—An interesting case recently occurred at Paris. A pharmacist, like many of his modern *confrères*, executed urine-analyses at certain charges. If he found anything suspicious he recommended the client to see a doctor. If not, he informed the customer he was all right. The Doctors' Syndicate considered this latter fact equivalent to the illegal practice of medicine, and prosecuted. Professor Villiers-Moriamé, Professor of Analytical Chemistry at the Superior School of Pharmacy, consulted by the Court as expert, opined that the "diagnosis of maladies was the exclusive domain of the doctor," and the pharmacist was condemned to pay a fine of 50*l.* and 50*l.* damages. He appealed, but the Ninth Chamber of the Court of Appeal confirmed the judgment of the lower Court. The pharmacist has filed his demand for carrying the case before the Supreme Court (Cour de Cassation).

**THE RECONSTRUCTION OF PARIS HOSPITALS** is to cost 45,000,000*fr.*, and the projects are divided into two "periods." The first period (stated at seven or eight years) is to see the Pitié Hospital rebuilt on the spare ground around the Salpêtrière. A hospital for fevers and contagious diseases is to be constructed at Ivry to replace the horrible Aubervilliers establishment. A new hospital is to be built on the right bank of the Seine, Cochin-Ricord and Broca are to be rebuilt, and the sanatoria at Berck and Hendaye are to be enlarged. This represents an expenditure of some 33,000,000*fr.*, and when all is finished provides an increase of about 1,500 beds. The second part of the scheme is to pull down Broussais, Laennec, Charité, Andral, and Beaujon—the first named to be re-erected on the present site, the other four to be replaced by two hospitals on the "right" bank and one on the "left." The sale of the remainder of the sites would provide a large sum towards the new buildings. Criticism is, of course, easy. Outside the tuberculosis question, the most pertinent query seems to be, "Why all these inter-urban hospitals? Lunatic asylums are nowadays kept outside the city; why not at least one or two large hospitals?" The extreme party hold that the modern city hospital should merely act as a sort of ambulance, giving the necessary "first-aid" to the *hors de combat* of the struggle for life, the victim of street accident, &c., and then passing him on by modern and improved conveyance to the "base hospital."



## Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re* THOMAS STERRATT, 35 Mabel's Brow, Farnworth, Lanes, Manufacturing Chemist.—The statement of accounts herein filed shows liabilities amounting to 329*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, and assets estimated at 1,316*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, thus showing a surplus of 987*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*

*Re* GEORGE EDWARD HEATON, 39 Robertson Street, Hastings, Chemist and Druggist.—The Official Receiver of the Brighton Bankruptcy Court reports that he has completed the realisation of the estate, and, after meeting the costs and preferential claims, is prepared to pay to the unsecured creditors a first and final dividend of 10*d.* in the pound.

*Re* JOHN SAUNDERS, High Street, Bexhill, Sussex, Chemist and Druggist.—The summary of the debtor's statement of affairs shows gross liabilities 782*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, of which 181*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* is expected to rank, and the assets 60*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* According to the Official Receiver's observations, the bankrupt states he commenced business about three and a half years ago at Bexhill with a capital of about 500*l.*, being money raised on mortgage of a reversionary interest. He paid 225*l.* for the business, and subsequently raised a further 100*l.* for the purpose of the business. He further stated that he had previously entered into negotiations for the purchase of a business at Ryde for 250*l.*, but declined to complete on the advice of his solicitor, as he did not believe the representations as to the business. An action was brought against him in that connection, which was compromised, and cost him about 70*l.* He gives as the causes of his insolvency, "slackness of trade, competition, and want of capital." He became aware of such insolvency about two months ago. The liabilities include one claim for 95*l.* for money lent. The creditors fully secured hold charges on the bankrupt's reversion. The stock and fixtures are not likely to realise the amount set out in a sale by auction. Attempts are being made to sell the business as a going concern. The debtor's furniture was made over by deed of gift by him to his wife on January 1, 1900.

*Re* ASHMORE & SON, 38 Mincing Lane, E.C., and 44 Wall Street, New York, Merchants.

At Wednesday's sitting of the London Bankruptcy Court Henry Beckwith Ashmore, a partner in the firm, attended before Mr. Registrar Giffard for public examination. He stated that he had inspected the evidence given by his partners, and he agreed with it except in the matter of his drawings. The deficiency-account showed the amount at 4,313*l.* since December, 1900, and that 300*l.* thereof was in respect of travelling and other business expenses. He estimated that the proportion chargeable to the business for that purpose should be 1,000*l.* There were several journeys between London and New York, besides the expenses of cables, entertaining, and other out-of-pockets paid in connection with the firm's business. Witness knew nothing of the circumstances under which 850*l.* was borrowed from his sisters just before the failure. The New York books of account were being despatched to this country, and would in due course be handed to the trustee.

The Official Receiver, having elicited that they would be addressed to the witness, and not to Mr. Pears, the trustee, asked the debtor what he is now doing. The latter said he is a clerk to the firm of Ashmore & Co., of 4 Lloyd's Avenue—a business which had recently been started by another brother, Mr. T. D. Ashmore, who is being assisted therein by Mr. H. L. Ashmore, as well as by witness. The Official Receiver asked for an undertaking that the books should go to the trustee direct, and not to Lloyd's Avenue. The debtor gave the required undertaking. This was his first failure.

Examined by Mr. Muir Mackenzie, who again appeared for Messrs. Brandt, Sons & Co., the debtor said he was the partner resident in New York, where they had had an office since January 19 last. He had previously been frequently in New York on behalf of the firm. Messrs. Dodge & Olcott, New York, had contributed to the rent of the Mincing Lane offices, in return for which witness's firm looked after their interests. Messrs. Dodge & Olcott used to sell goods to them and consign goods on commission terms, but witness was unable to say how the two classes were distinguished in the accounts. Before February 14 last he had no knowledge of the seventy-three cases of oil referred to in the examination of his partners. He could not say whether that oil was originally consigned by Messrs. Dodge & Olcott, or the terms on which it was shipped, although he was in America in January last.

Mr. Muir Mackenzie: Did Messrs. Dodge & Olcott authorise your firm to obtain advances on the goods consigned?—I should say not.

Do you know whether any of the goods sent on commission terms were pledged for advances?—I have no knowledge of that.

Were Messrs. Dodge & Olcott made aware by your partners

of the fact that advances had been obtained on their goods?—I should say not.

Examination continued: Whilst in New York witness corresponded with the London office. The letters and press copies would mostly be in the papers and books now on their way from America. Witness understood that on January 20 last 5,000*l.* was remitted by his firm to Messrs. Brown, Shipley & Co., on behalf of Messrs. Dodge & Olcott, in reduction of their indebtedness to the last-named firm. It was the fact that witness came over from America the last time but one at the request of Messrs. Dodge & Olcott to investigate some of the transactions between the two firms, and that he returned to America and communicated the information to Messrs. Dodge & Olcott. He knew nothing whatever of a letter from that firm dated January 16, 1903, offering to place 5,000*l.* at the disposal of Ashmore & Son.

Mr. Carrington appeared for the witness, but asked no questions, and the examination was ordered to be concluded.

## Gazette.

### Partnership Dissolved.

**Stovin, C. F., and Maudsley, N.,** under the style of Stovin, Duncan & Maudsley, Ilford, Essex, surgeons, &c.

### The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

#### RECEIVING ORDER.

**Sugden, Thomas Edward,** Brighton, dental surgeon.

#### ADJUDICATIONS.

**Sterratt, Thomas,** Farnworth, Lancashire, manufacturing chemist.

**Taylor, Andrew Sharp,** North Shields, wholesale druggist.

## Deeds of Arrangement.

**Doumin, Paul,** trading as P. Doumin & Co., 13 St. Mary Axe, E.C., and residing at Talbot Villa, 11 Heathland Road, Stoke Newington, essential oil importer. Trustee, James Cheves, 16 South Street, Finsbury, E.C., chartered accountant. Secured creditors, 180*l.* Dated, January 24; filed, June 27. Liabilities unsecured, 6,192*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*; estimated net assets, 1,302*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* Amongst the creditors are:

	£	s.	d.
Basle Chemical-works, Basle ... ..	16	0	0
Bing Fils & Co., Paris ... ..	155	0	0
Bosselier, A., London ... ..	12	0	0
Burgoyne, Burdighes & Co., London ... ..	16	0	0
Buttner, E., Leipzig ... ..	14	0	0
Cardon & Baxa, Nice ... ..	42	0	0
Doré & Sons (Limited), London ... ..	10	0	0
Doumin, R., London ... ..	24	0	0
Furber & Furber, London ... ..	180	0	0
Gerhardt, C. F., London ... ..	136	0	0
Guiseppi, Candiani & Co., Milan ... ..	26	0	0
Jeancaud Fils, Cannes ... ..	4,432	0	0
Leiner, P., & Sons, London ... ..	32	0	0
Miton & Djedeff, Karlvoo ... ..	156	0	0
Morson, T., & Son, London ... ..	22	0	0
Palmer, Howe & Co., Manchester ... ..	14	0	0
Pillet & D'Enfert, Paris ... ..	28	0	0
Richardson, W. H., Chorlton-cum-Hardy ... ..	759	0	0
Stephenson, Routledge & Co., Manchester ... ..	16	0	0
Banker's claims ... ..	203	0	0

**Ellis, Oswald Malcolm,** 132 Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham chemist. Trustee, Richard Sands, Nottingham, accountant. Secured creditors, 10*l.* Dated, June 25; filed, June 26. Liabilities unsecured, 354*l.* 9*s.*; estimated net assets 90*l.* Amongst the creditors are:

	£	s.	d.
Blyton, Astley & Co., Manchester ... ..	16	0	0
Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), Liverpool ... ..	188	0	0
Harrison, T., Nottingham ... ..	11	0	0
Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., Manchester ... ..	23	0	0
Rogers, W., Chiswick ... ..	21	0	0
Towle, W. F., Nottingham ... ..	13	0	0

DURING the nine months ending March, 1903, the imports of drugs, dyes, chemicals, and medicines into Canada were \$2,764,973 (free) and \$1,282,276 (dutiable).



## Legal Reports.

### High Court Cases.

#### IMPORTING SACCHARIN.

BEFORE Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady in the Chancery Division on Tuesday, June 30, Mr. Walter moved for judgment in the action of the Saccharin Corporation (Limited) *v.* Williams in default of defence. The action was for an injunction restraining the defendant from infringing the plaintiffs' letters patent and an inquiry as to damages. The defendant was the representative of the gentleman who was fined by the Customs nearly 7,000*l.* before the Lord Chief Justice earlier in the year, and the defendant had been disposing of the material imported. He had himself imported in February two lots of 176 oz. He had entered an appearance, but had not put in a defence.

His Lordship gave judgment accordingly.

#### ANOTHER KODAK CASE.

In the Vice-Chancellor's Court, Dublin, on July 1, the action of Kodak (Limited) against P. C. Curtis, vendor of photographic requisites, Dublin, was mentioned.

Mr. Brunskill, B.L. (instructed by Messrs. Findlater & Co., solicitors), said that a consent had been entered into between the parties, under which it was agreed that all further proceedings be stayed upon the terms that the defendant consented to a perpetual injunction to restrain him from selling as "Brownie" photographic films, films not manufactured by the plaintiffs. The defendant further agreed to pay the plaintiffs the sum of 1*l.* as damages, together with all costs.

The Vice-Chancellor made the consent a rule of Court.

#### THE AUTHORITY OF A HOUSE-FACTOR.

In the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on June 25, Lord Pearson, after hearing counsel, disposed of an action by David Watson, chemist and druggist, 39 Cartvale Road, Langside, Glasgow, against Archibald Kirkland, Chrisview, Cathcart. Mr. Watson carries on business at 41 Sinclair Drive, Langside, Glasgow, and the defendant is proprietor of a shop at 558 Cathcart Road, in which plaintiff formerly carried on business, and which he held on lease from the defendant for a period of fifteen years from Whit Sunday, 1894. The plaintiff sold his business at 558 Cathcart Road, in February, 1901, to another chemist, the terms of sale including an understanding that he would arrange with the defendant to allow the current lease to lapse, and to grant a new lease in favour of the purchaser. The plaintiff averred that the defendant's factor and he came to an absolute agreement that the current lease should be allowed to lapse, and a new one be granted by the defendant in favour of the purchaser of the business. The defendant, however, refused to implement that agreement, and the plaintiff brought the action to have him ordered to do so. The defendant stated that he never agreed to grant a lease to the purchaser, and further said the factor had no authority from him to conclude a contract, and did not do so with the plaintiff in the terms alleged. His Lordship sustained the defendant's plea that the action was irrelevant, and dismissed the action, with expenses. He held that there were no allegations on record to show that the house-factor acted with the authority of the defendant, and he was not disposed to hold that a house-factor had any implied authority to accept a renunciation of a lease, *quoad* one tenant, to contract to grant a new lease for a term of years to another tenant. ["Factor" means "agent."—ED.]

#### AERATED-WATER BOTTLES.

In the Dublin Chancery Division on June 27, before the Master of the Rolls, the case of A. & R. Thwaites & Co. (Limited), Dublin, *v.* McEvilly & Co., Limerick, came on for hearing.

The plaintiffs, aerated-water manufacturers in Dublin, sought to restrain the defendants, who carry on the same business in Limerick, from selling or offering for sale, in bottles bearing the plaintiffs' trade-mark, "A. & R. Thwaites & Co.," any aerated water not manufactured by plaintiffs.

The defendants, in their defence, submitted that the

embossments on the plaintiffs' bottles were designed to indicate that the bottles bearing same were manufactured for and first used by the plaintiff company or their predecessors, and were designed to serve as an advertisement for the plaintiff company, but they were not designed to indicate that the contents of the bottles at the time of any particular sale were the manufacture of the plaintiff company. The defendants stated that they sold mineral waters in plain bottles or in bottles embossed with their names, and sold such bottles to their customers, allowing credit for bottles returned. The plaintiffs traded in the same manner with shopkeepers, who were also customers of the defendants, and had collected from them empty bottles which were sold by the defendants. The bottles sold by the plaintiff company to the said customers were tendered as returned empties to the defendants, who had no alternative but to accept and give credit for them or to forfeit the custom of the said customers. The plaintiff company had refused to exchange bottles with the defendants except through a bottle exchange on terms disadvantageous to the defendants. The defendants further stated that, acting in a *bonâ-fide* belief that they were in the right, they used the plaintiffs' embossed bottles, but had taken all precautions to prevent the possibility of any person being deceived, and no one, in fact, had been or could be misled. The defendants were willing to discontinue receiving the bottles of the plaintiff company if the plaintiff company would refrain from collecting the defendants' bottles.

The following actions, involving a similar point, have been stayed pending the decision in the above case, which was taken as a test action: Michael Downes *v.* John McEvilly, Bewley & Draper *v.* same, Michael Govenay *v.* T. Murphy and James Bradshaw, Bewley & Draper *v.* same, Hovenden & Orr *v.* John McEvilly, W. A. Ross & Sons *v.* same, A. & R. Thwaites *v.* Murphy & Bradshaw, and Cantrell & Cocbrane *v.* same.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy, K.C., argued the case for the plaintiffs. He said Thwaites & Co. were well-known manufacturers of mineral waters in Dublin, and defendants, like McEvilly, who had neither the capital nor the means nor the inclination to produce an article of the same class, were deliberately taking the bottles which did not belong to them, and putting their own stuff into the plaintiffs' bottles. On some occasions they put a label on the plaintiffs' bottles, and on other occasions they put nothing on the bottle except a label bearing solely the name of the contents, leaving the name of Thwaites & Co. embossed on the bottle. The defendants now raised the extraordinary defence that there was a right in a rival manufacturer to use the trade-mark of the man who was in rivalry if he did not exchange bottles with him.

Evidence was then given as to the practice of the firm in sending out embossed bottles, and that it was not for the purpose of advertisement, but to protect their manufactures.

Mr. O'Brien, K.C., said the defence in this case had been put in for the purpose of settling the question. He cited a number of decisions in trade-cases, and submitted that there was no intention to mislead the public and that, in fact, no one had been misled.

At this stage the further bearing of the case was adjourned.

On Wednesday, July 1, the arguments in the case were resumed and occupied the entire day, after which

The Master of the Rolls reserved his judgment.

### Medicine-stamp Act, 1812.

#### COMPANIES AND THE EXEMPTIONS.

In the case of Spencer *v.* Needhams (Limited), heard by Mr. Denman at the Marylebone Police Court on June 25, an outline-report of which was printed in our last issue, page 1030, the informations were in respect to the following articles: Needhams' blood-purifier, Needhams' chills-ain-liniment, Needhams' chlorodyne, Needhams' catarrh-salts, Needhams' cod-liver-oil emulsion and hypophosphites, compound tonic-gargle, quinine-and-iron tonic, solution of cod-liver oil with malt extract, ammoniated tincture of valerian, Needhams' diarrhoea-mixture, and tincture of rhubarb. The interest of the case lay chiefly in the fact that Mr. Bonsey, barrister, who was one of the counsel for the respondent in Farmer *v.* Glyn-Jones, endeavoured to obtain



for a limited company the exemptions granted by the schedule to chemists and others who have served a regular apprenticeship. We give our notes of the hearing solely because they show the arguments for and against Mr. Bonsey's contention, and in justice to Needhams (Limited) we may state that the sales took place six months ago. Their manager then gave the Board an explanation, and the company heard no more about the matter until they received the summonses. Then the Revenue authorities insisted on the cases going into court.

Mr. Denniss, who conducted the prosecution, proved that the defendants are a limited company, and stated that the proceedings were taken under Section 2 of the Act, which he explained at length, saying that the question of liability depends upon whether the articles sold are held out or recommended for the prevention, cure, or relief of human ailments.

Mr. Denman, interposing, said, "Or nos'runs, whether beneficial or the opposite, it appears to me." (A laugh.)

Mr. Denniss proceeded to quote passages from "Medical Advice" in the defendant company's price-list, which held out or recommended the preparations for various ailments, while in a section headed "Patent medicines and proprietary articles" most of them were mentioned with the name of the company in the possessive case. While he was speaking of the blood-purifying mixture,

Mr. Denman remarked, "*Prima facie* the statement that it purifies the blood is equivalent to saying that it prevents the ailments referred to."

Mr. Denniss agreed. He then spoke of chilblain-liniment.

Mr. Denman asked if "liniment" is one of the preparations specified in the Act.

Mr. Denniss said, "No, not specifically, but it would be included in official preparations or in lotions."

Mr. Bonsey said he would not object to the liniment on that ground.

When chlorodyne was referred to by Mr. Denniss as curing cholera,

Mr. Denman jokingly asked, "What would be the result if they said that it should be followed up with brandy-and-water?"

Mr. Denniss: I do not say that that is in the Act.

Mr. Bonsey: I should say that brandy-and-water is a "potion" or "cordial."

Mr. Denman, again interposing, said, "It seems to me that a common article like chilblain-liniment which is not sold as a special preparation, as the defendants keep it just as other people keep it, cannot be brought within the charge."

Mr. Denniss replied that leaving that alone the article was held out as beneficial, and that sufficed to bring it under the charge. He proceeded to show that the charges are alternative.

Mr. Denman: Do you say that a medicine is liable to duty when it is sold by a person without a shop? For example, if a mixture of rhubarb and magnesia is advertised in the papers and recommended as a cure for something, it is chargeable with duty although the advertiser does not claim any right to it?

Mr. Denniss: Certainly; it is the holding out that makes it liable.

Mr. Denman: Even although it is common to the world?

Mr. Denniss: Yes.

No further point that need be recorded arose until Mr. Denniss was concluding his explanation of the case; then he remarked that he understood that Mr. Bonsey was to claim exemption under a clause of the schedule.

Mr. Bonsey replied that he did not propose to dispute the fact that with one or two of the articles there was liability, and he would say that with others there was not, and that certain others came within Exemption 3 of the schedule [that is, as to known, admitted, and approved remedies].

Mr. Denniss then outlined to the Magistrate what he would have to say in the event of this exemption being claimed as a reason why the charges on certain counts should be dismissed. He quoted the exemption as to known, admitted, and approved remedies, saying that the chemist or druggist there referred to is a person of such qualification as is mentioned in the entire drugs exemption—namely, one who has served a regular apprenticeship. He assured the Magistrate that if he were to go back upon the Acts which preceded that of

1812 he would find that the chemist or druggist mentioned in each or all of them was one who had served a regular apprenticeship, so that it is only chemists who can claim this exemption, and by chemists he meant those who had served a regular apprenticeship. As the defendants in this case were a limited company it was impossible that they could have served a regular apprenticeship, and therefore impossible that they could claim exemption under whatever conditions the sale was made. A case had lately been decided on that point, but there the chemist had served a regular apprenticeship.

Mr. Thomas Jameson's evidence was then taken, and Mr. Bonsey cross-examined him as to his experience in buying medicinal articles and his knowledge of the regulations in force in the Inland Revenue Department, asking him if it is not the case that there had been always a considerable difficulty in deciding what is liable and what is not. He also wanted to know if it is not the case that until recently the Board had allowed such titles as "Cough-mixture," but had lately become more stringent in their ideas.

Mr. Denniss protested that the witness was not in a position to say what goes on in the Department, and was only present in court to prove the purchase of the articles.

Mr. Bonsey thereupon said that he simply wanted to show the Magistrate that if the Board do not know quite where they are it is not surprising that chemists should be in the same position. He then quoted Mr. Stoodley's letter in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of June 20, and proceeded to say that he would show that some of the articles sold were liable and others were not.

Mr. Denniss, interposing, informed the Magistrate that they were not proceeding that day on any article which had not been prosecuted on for some years.

Mr. Bonsey said it was necessary to go into some detail. It would be observed that the Act was about a hundred years old, and recently the Revenue authorities had shown greater vigilance in exerting their powers, and now put a more stringent interpretation on the law than they had done for years; consequently, many honest tradesmen have found it difficult to know what to do. He urged that the object of the Acts was to strike at the inventor of a medicine or the proprietor of a medicine—that is to say, if a person launched a medicine upon the public, it was considered that he ought to pay the duty imposed. This was the main object of the Acts. It is remarkable, he said, that the duty is not paid by the retailer of the medicine, as in this case, but by the original or first vendor; and this was considered so important that a certain section—namely, Section 10 of the 1812 Act—makes it the duty of the maker, original or first vendor, to give notice to Somerset House when he is to put a dutiable medicine upon the market, and it was the duty of the Revenue authorities to keep a book with the names of all such persons in it. He quoted the section [see XVI. THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, page 518] for the purpose of showing that it was never contemplated that a common household remedy should be liable to duty, but that medicines which were put forward as nostrums or panaceas should pay duty from the time they were introduced.

Mr. Denman remarked that the question he had to decide was whether the medicines were liable to duty now in consequence of the recent decision.

Mr. Bonsey said he was submitting that to get at the meaning of the Act one must see what was done, what it was intended to make dutiable. He took a common case—harts-horn and oil—because everybody knows what it is used for. The original or first vendors did not make it a dutiable article. The mere fact that a chemist sells it does not render it liable to duty. Section 2 of the 1812 Act makes it an offence to sell a dutiable article, therefore they had to say what a dutiable article is. They looked to the schedule because it showed what was then considered chargeable and what should afterwards be, and he gave several instances to show that common remedies were not included in the schedule. He wished to show that some of the things that had been sold by Needhams (Limited) came in Exemption 3.

Mr. Denman noted the proviso that the articles should not be held out by the makers, vendors, or proprietors as remedies, &c.

Mr. Bonsey replied that this refers to the original or first



vendor. He had been in the case, and thought he knew the facts pretty well. He contended that if a thing has become public property before a person sells it, it is not dutiable. If he were met with the statement that a limited company does not come within the exemption, then he would say, "You cannot summon a company." It must be the person who sells the article, as in the Pharmacy Act. The first Medicine-stamp Act was passed 120 years ago, when limited companies were not contemplated, but such companies can carry on the chemist's business. That was decided in the Pharmaceutical Society v. London and Provincial Supply Association, and he quoted from Lord Selborne's judgment in the House of Lords the statement in support of his contention that it is wrong to proceed against a company.

Mr. Denman remarked that *Smith v. Mason* did not uphold this contention, for Mason had turned himself into a company, yet the Revenue authorities proceeded against the company successfully.

Mr. Bonsey, with all respect, said the point there was different. It was Exemption 2, referring to entire drugs, that was claimed, and the question did not arise as to whether defendants were a company or not. But, he continued, it could not be just that his clients should be liable under Section 2 and not get the benefits of the exemptions, Mr. Needham being a qualified chemist. In *Smith v. Mason* the defendants were not licensed, but in this case they were actually licensed by the Board itself to sell these patent medicines. The managing director of the company being a qualified chemist, and the manager of the shop also, he submitted that the conditions of the law were fulfilled.

Mr. Denman (to Mr. Denniss): Do you agree?

Mr. Denniss: No, sir. I do say that some chemists or druggists have not served a regular apprenticeship, but the Board recognises those who by examination are qualified, because the regulations require that they shall have served an apprenticeship.

Mr. Bonsey disputed this, and there was a little argument as to the correctness of Mr. Denniss's statement about pharmaceutical qualifications. [All parties were a trifle fogged as to the conditions of Pharmacy Act registration.] Mr. Bonsey then said what was required was to know what was meant when the Act passed, for it could not mean anything different now. He turned to Farmer v. Glyn-Jones, and, as one who had been counsel in the defence, explained it to the Magistrate, and quoted from Mr. Justice Wills's judgment; the effect of the whole being, he said, that putting a recommendation upon a common article does not make it dutiable. The present case was one of the kind. He submitted that the Acts are not clear, but that chemists are not to blame much in not knowing what to stamp. Even Somerset House does not know sometimes. He also assured the Magistrate that the Divisional Court had had very great difficulty in arriving at a decision, so that it was impossible to regard the offence in the present case as anything of a serious nature. He mentioned some of the articles referred to; blood purifier he would not defend. Mr. Needham usually stamped it, and this bottle had been sold inadvertently. Moreover, the defendants made it, and that, he said, excluded them from the exemption—a remark which also applied to diarrhoea-mixture. He rather scoffed at the Revenue authorities for the chilblain-liniment, which he considered a trumpery thing to go upon. With regard to compound tonic gargle, that was a throat-gargle, and everyone knows that tannin is an astringent for the voice. He quoted from the price-list showing that it did not say Needham's.

Mr. Denman, with a smile, remarked, "But they say as much as 'We are prepared to sell you it.'"

Mr. Bonsey: They make it themselves, and that is against them. Now, as to the others a good deal is to be said for the defence.

Here Mr. Denman interposed to say that there were some thirty or forty Revenue cases to come on that afternoon, and it was nearing five o'clock. He did not know when he would be back in that court again, and an adjournment seemed unlikely.

Mr. Bonsey thereupon consulted with his client, and with Mr. Denniss, and stated that if it would save time he was prepared to plead guilty on condition that a nominal penalty of 1*l.* was imposed in each case. It would involve great expense in time and money if the matter were to be threshed

out to a conclusion, and although he regretted to stop, he respectfully put forward the suggestion.

Mr. Denman: I may say now, without prejudging the matter, that I am against you, Mr. Bonsey.

Mr. Bonsey: Do you mean in the case of a limited company?

Mr. Denman: Yes; I am not convinced that the company is a chemist in the sense of the statute.

Mr. Bonsey: Well, I thought I might convince you as to the reason of my contention.

Mr. Denman: So far as I have made up my mind I do not think anything is to be gained by going on, and I have yet to hear what the prosecution has to say upon the point.

Mr. Denniss, in reply to this, contented himself with saying that he did not admit for a moment that the Revenue authorities had recently been more strict than they ever had been. He had been connected with cases of this kind for twenty-five years, and he assured the Magistrate that the authorities are not now more strict in their administration, and that the letter which Mr. Bonsey had read in support of his statement to the contrary was the natural outcome of a Divisional Court decision in the case of *Ransom v. Sanguinetti*.

Mr. Denman then said as to the limited company benefiting under the exemption, this case was a question as to liability to stamp-duty, and not a question of *mens rea*. The people who had avoided stamp-duty were the company, and not the people who sold the article, and the company were liable in law to any penalty thereby incurred.

The proceedings then terminated, judgment being entered for the prosecution, with costs. The Court then adjourned.

#### INSUFFICIENTLY STAMPED.

AT Marlborough Street Police Court on July 1, before Mr. Plowden, Mr. Sidney Constance, chemist and druggist, 64 Haymarket, S.W., was summoned for selling a bottle of Grimault's matico injection which was insufficiently stamped.

Mr. Denniss, barrister, prosecuted for the Inland Revenue; and Mr. F. W. Beck (Neve, Beck & Kirby) defended.

Mr. Denniss said that 3*s.* 6*d.* was paid for the injection purchased by an officer of the Inland Revenue, and the bottle only bore a 3*d.* stamp. The Act states that all articles the price or value of which shall not exceed 2*s.* 6*d.* should bear a 3*d.* stamp; those exceeding 2*s.* 6*d.*, but not exceeding 4*s.*, should have a 6*d.* stamp affixed. As 3*s.* 6*d.* was charged, a 6*d.* stamp was therefore necessary. The defendant's contention, he believed, was that 2*s.* 6*d.*, and not 3*s.* 6*d.*, was charged.

Thomas Jameson, an officer of the Inland Revenue, deposed to the purchase of a bottle of Grimault's matico injection (produced) from an assistant in Mr. Constance's shop at 64 Haymarket. He asked for "matico injection."

Mr. Plowden: Is that anything to do with *rheu-matico*? (Laughter.)

Continuing, witness said he first asked the assistant what price he sold it at, and was told 3*s.* 6*d.* He took a bottle, tendered half a sovereign, and got 6*s.* 6*d.* change. He made a note of the price at the time, and was quite clear both about the coin he gave and the change he received.

Cross-examined by Mr. Beck: He did not ask for or receive a receipt, nor did he indicate in any way that he was an Inland Revenue officer. He could not definitely swear to the identity of the particular assistant who served him, but described him as "a dark-complexioned gentleman."

Mr. Sydney Banks was asked to stand up in court, and proved to be "dark-complexioned."

Continuing, Mr. Jameson said he did not draw attention to the purchase in any way. There were three other chemists in the Haymarket, and he agreed that in the price-lists handed in by Mr. Beck, Grimault's matico-injection was priced at 2*s.* 9*d.* retail. He did not agree, however, that 2*s.* 9*d.* was the usual retail price, but it was an article perfectly well known to chemists.

Mr. Plowden: But a 2*s.* 9*d.* article should have a 6*d.* stamp, should it not?

Mr. Beck: No, sir; that is 2*s.* 6*d.* for the medicine and 3*d.* for the stamp.

Mr. Plowden: But I thought the Act said, "exceeding 2*s.* 6*d.* should have 6*d.* stamp."

Mr. Denniss: Strictly speaking, that is so, sir; it is a moot point.



Mr. Beck: But the Inland Revenue sanction that—  
Mr. Denniss: Oh, no. The Inland Revenue do not recognise that contention.

Mr. Beck: At any rate, sir, that point does not arise in this case. Perhaps we may argue it out before you at some future time.

Mr. Plowden smiled whimsically, as though to say, "I hope not," and the cross-examination proceeded. Mr. Jameson admitting that by wholesalers, at least, as shown in the lists of Barclay and of Wilcox, Jouzeau & Co., 2s. 9d. is the recognised retail price. In re-examination, he said that he had purchased the injection on other occasions, and at three other shops he had paid 3s. 6d. for it, frequently he had paid 2s. 9d., and sometimes 2s. 6d. The purchase was made at 9.30 P.M.

Mr. Beck, in an able defence, said the difficulty in the case was that the defendant had no way of checking the evidence of the officer. The article was purchased on April 4, and no intimation whatever was given to the vendor. He thought, at least, that could have been done, in order to give the defendant an opportunity of testing the truth of the evidence. The officer, after the purchase, could have said to the assistant, "You have charged 3s. 6d. for this, and it only has a 3d. stamp. I shall have to report the matter." Instead of which the defendant received intimation of an alleged offence some considerable time afterwards. They wrote in the usual way in these cases asking what defendant had to say about it and suggesting a compromise penalty. Defendant made what inquiries he could, found that his assistant was positive he only charged 2s. 6d., the usual price, and declined a compromise, being under the belief that he has committed no offence. Mr. Constance had been in business in Charing Cross Road and the Haymarket for over thirty years, and never before had a suggestion been made that he defrauded the Revenue. The article sold is perfectly well known to chemists, and the price is known to the public. Mr. Constance's competitors in the immediate neighbourhood list it at 2s. 9d. retail, and it is extraordinary to assume that 3s. 6d. should suddenly be charged for an article which has been sold in the defendant's shop at 2s. 6d. for years. He would call Mr. Constance and two assistants of his to give evidence, and he also put in the check-till list for April 4, which showed that on the night in question there were two items sold at 3s. 6d. and two at 2s. 6d. He thought the time of the 2s. 6d. purchases could be indicated on the list.

Defendant said he had been in business since 1867 in Charing Cross Road and Haymarket. He was in the shop on April 4 up till 8 P.M. After that time his assistant, Mr. Banks, took charge. It was the custom in his establishment to charge 2s. 6d. for matico injection; the charge used to be 2s. 9d.

Cross-examined by Mr. Denniss: After certain hours it is the custom to charge an extra fee for medicines sold, but not so early as 9.30 P.M. He did not think it possible that the assistant charged an extra fee on the particular occasion under discussion.

Mr. Plowden: At what hour does this scale of night-fees begin?

Mr. Constance: After twelve o'clock generally, or after those in charge have gone to bed.

Mr. Plowden: Does the fee gradually mount up? (Laughter.)

Mr. Constance: Oh, no!

Mr. Plowden: When does it begin to descend?

Mr. Constance: After we get up.

Mr. Plowden: I see; as long as you are not taken out of bed. It is new to me, this charging night-fees. I do not for a moment say it is wrong, but it is interesting information.

Sydney Banks, chemist and druggist, said he had been an assistant for eighteen months with Mr. Constance. He had no remembrance of the sale of matico injection or of the price he charged on April 4, but he was in sole charge on that night from 8 P.M. till closing-time. The price he always charged for the article in question was 2s. 6d. The check-till list put in was entered up by him from eight o'clock. One entry for 3s. 6d. which he noted must have been before 9 P.M., judging by circumstances he remembered in connection with other entries. There was no entry for 3s. 6d. after that time, but there was one for 2s. 6d. The list truly stated the amount he had received for each sale.

Cross-examination did not shake the witness in his contention that he charged no more than 2s. 6d. if he sold the injection. He would not admit that he might have overcharged by mistake, even when confronted with the statement that the purchaser made a note of the price at the time. In answer to the Magistrate he said he had had eight years' experience in the drug-trade, and had sold the injection at other places where 2s. 2d. and 2s. 6d. were charged, according to the locality.

Mr. Plowden: Don't you think you may have got a little bewildered and forgot the locality you were in; imagined you were in Whitechapel, for instance? (Laughter.)

The witness did not think so; and Mr. Beck said the bewilderment would tend to a lower price rather than a higher, with which the Magistrate agreed.

Mr. Cathcart, who had formerly been in Mr. Constance's employment in Charing Cross Road, gave evidence that he had always charged 2s. 9d., never 3s. 6d. for the injection.

Mr. Plowden, in giving judgment, said there was some force in the contention for the defence that the Inland Revenue officer ought to have declared his identity. He quite recognised that up to a certain point diplomacy was very necessary, but after he had "bagged his game," so to speak, he should say who he was. That is the mode of procedure under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and he thought the same rule ought to apply in these cases. If that course had been followed in this case, there would possibly have been no proceedings taken at all. As it was, there had been, putting it mildly, a misunderstanding, which would not have arisen if the officer had declared himself. To the case, therefore, he had to apply the plainest common-sense, and he did not think it conceivable how the Inland Revenue officer (if the man were honest, and, of course, there was no suggestion that he was not) could have been mistaken. He went into the shop for the express purpose of making the purchase, and he noted the price paid at the time. That formed a tremendous basis of fact, and though defendant had done his very best to displace that fact, all that he had accomplished was the establishment of a very strong improbability. He was sorry for the defendant, and did not for a moment think that he, with his large experience and respectability, would wilfully commit an offence. Perhaps there had been some slip or misunderstanding in the sale, and as the issue was left to him (the Magistrate) and he had only one positive fact to go upon, he had no alternative but to find for the Inland Revenue, the penalty being 10s. No costs were asked for.

## Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

### THE COMMERCIAL STANDARD.

MR. D'EYNCOURT, sitting at the Clerkenwell Police Court on June 30, gave his decision in the case brought by the Islington Borough Council against Boots Cash Chemists (Limited) for selling methylated liniment of soap instead of that made with rectified spirit.

He said: This case has been remitted to this court for me to hear evidence on a point upon which I refused to hear evidence at a former hearing. As I understand it, the point upon which I had to hear evidence was whether there was evidence of a commercial standard for the liniment of soap sold in this case different from that of the British Pharmacopœia, and the proposition put forward by the defendants was that they would produce evidence that there was a different standard from that of the Pharmacopœia for this liniment of soap, and, further, that the methylated liniment was so universally sold that any person demanding soap-liniment would be supplied with the methylated in the natural course of trade. That, in my opinion, is a question of fact entirely which I have to find upon the evidence—whether any or all of these propositions are established on the evidence which was brought before me. The evidence has been put before me with the greatest clearness and (considering the class of evidence) with considerable brevity, except that it took up four long afternoons. If this sort of thing is to take place in every case heard under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, it is an added terror to the conduct of the business of these courts. We have had a large body of evidence called by the defendants which in effect comes to this: In the first place, a very much larger quantity of



methylated liniment of soap is sold by the manufacturers than that made according to the British Pharmacopœia, and is, therefore, retailed by chemists and others. A very large number of chemists from country districts and from London districts—from poor districts principally—have given evidence, the large body of which was to the effect that they sold a very much larger quantity of methylated soap-liniment than of the preparation made according to the British Pharmacopœia standard, and a very great number stated that they always sold the methylated liniment when liniment of soap was asked for unless under certain conditions, such as physicians' prescriptions, or where there was something to show that the other was asked for. One or two had stated that they had labelled it "Methylated," but only one had done so before this action came on for hearing. The price was also gone into. There could be no question about that. The cost of the methylated is about a fourth that of the British Pharmacopœia liniment, and it retails at about one-third the price of that of the British Pharmacopœia article. On the other side a large body of evidence was brought, and I was told—I was going to use the word "threatened"—that more could be brought to show that soap-liniment or liniment of soap when asked for was supplied by a large number of chemists equally respectable and trustworthy—though perhaps there were not so many mayors of boroughs or towns amongst them—always according to the standard of the British Pharmacopœia unless the methylated were specifically called for. Several witnesses said that when "opodeldoc" was asked for it was taken to mean the liniment made with methylated spirit. There had been a great deal said in the case—throwing light upon it, no doubt, but not entirely irrelevant—about the regulations of the Excise and what the contents of the British Pharmacopœia are. These things, in my opinion, have somewhat confused the matter. The British Pharmacopœia contains, besides prescriptions or descriptions of a great number of things, most of which are drugs or medicines, a large number that are neither drugs nor medicines. Another large number, besides being drugs or medicines, are also articles used for domestic or other purposes, such as soft soap, turpentine, castor oil, and other things. It is clearly no offence to sell these sort of articles for other than medicinal purposes, made, not according to the British Pharmacopœia, but according to a commercial standard. Under no pretence could the 15th Section of the Pharmacy Act apply to that, because it is not compounding a medicine at all. But other things, such as this liniment, are used purely as medicines, and it seems to me to be of a different character. With regard to the Excise regulations, there is no doubt they sanction the use of methylated spirit for the preparation of liniment of soap and other liniments, and there seems to be no doubt that it can be so used, but that in itself does not make that liniment of soap, so compounded, the liniment of soap prescribed by the Pharmacopœia. Apart from that section of the Pharmacy Act I suppose that there is no reason why it should not be sold or made, and it is quite clear that it is very largely made with methylated spirit and sold. It appears to me that the words of the Lord Chief Justice, when the case was heard in the Divisional Court, seem rather applicable. In his judgment he said:

It is highly probable, if the evidence [of commercial standard] has been admitted, it would have proved your [prosecutor's] point—namely, that it was liniment of soap improperly compounded.

The evidence had proved that methylated liniment was very largely sold, but it practically came to the very same thing as the evidence given for the defence in the case of *Dickens v. Randerson*, and the words of the judgment in that case also apply:

What he [the defendant] attempted to prove was that there were two commercial standards of wide difference—a thing in itself unreasonable—while he stated that he kept both standards in his shop, and sold according to one standard or the other, according as the customer brought or did not bring a prescription from a medical man.

With this evidence before me of one large body of chemists who say they sell the methylated, and another equally large and respectable body sell the British Pharmacopœia article, when liniment of soap is asked for, what answer can I give to the proposition put forward for the defendants? The only answer I can give upon the evidence is that the facts

are that there is no commercial standard for liniment of soap different from that of the British Pharmacopœia. There is a large quantity of evidence that the methylated spirit is compounded and sold as liniment of soap, and it appears to me to come under the very words used by the Lord Chief Justice, "Liniment of soap improperly compounded, and that the defendants have been attempting to sell under that name what was not liniment of soap according to the proper meaning of the word." Having found this as a fact upon the evidence, the other proposition—namely, "that the methylated article is so universally known as liniment of soap that it constitutes a commercial standard"—falls to the ground. I have therefore no alternative but to ask what presumption of law arises when it is found that there is no commercial standard for liniment of soap different from that of the British Pharmacopœia. The presumption arises at once, as in all the cases, that the British Pharmacopœia is the standard asked for and demanded, and therefore I have no alternative but to reaffirm the conviction in this case.

Mr. Bramall immediately rose and said the previous conviction was for 20*l.* and 10*l.* 10*s.* costs. He asked that the costs should be increased to 100 guineas. There was some discussion regarding costs in the High Court, with which the Magistrate said he had nothing to do. Mr. Bonsey, for the defendants, said he would first like to say a word on the question of the penalty. He thought the penalty of 20*l.* inflicted was too high, seeing the Magistrate had had the facts before him to show that there was no intention on the part of the defendants in breaking the law. The defendants had done nothing more than they had considered they were entitled to do, and a very large number of the trade had done the same for thirty or forty years. Surely some consideration ought to apply in such cases both in regard to penalties and costs. The Magistrate was inclined to agree with Mr. Bonsey regarding that, but Mr. Bramall, although not pressing on the penalty question, was very firm on the question of costs. After considerable discussion and a strong protest by Mr. Bonsey, the Magistrate agreed to mitigate the penalty to 5*l.*, with sixty-five guineas costs.

Mr. Bonsey said they would consider the learned Magistrate's decision with a view to seeing whether any point of law might not be raised, and he would be glad to have the assurance of the learned Magistrate that he would help them in case of any point occurring in stating a case for appeal.

Mr. D'Eyncourt: I do not know whether an appeal would lie in these cases.

Mr. Bonsey: I think it would.

Mr. D'Eyncourt: I do not want in the least to encourage that.

Mr. Bonsey: Where it is a judgment on the question of fact, and that is questioned, an appeal is the proper method; if it was only a question of fact, there would be no other way of questioning it, but I should like to consider whether there is a question of law, having regard to the judgment you have just given, and if there were any reasonable points of law that we could formulate, I daresay you would have no objection to stating a case.

Mr. D'Eyncourt: No; I should be very glad to help you, because I am really now only carrying out the directions of the High Court and trying to interpret as best I can their directions.

A mutual interchange of courtesies between Bench and Bar closed for the present, at least, this hard-fought case.

#### INACCURATE DISPENSING.

At the Eastbourne Police Court on Monday, June 29, before Sir Alfred Dent and Colonel FitzGerald, John Gale Rodmell, chemist and druggist, formerly of 24 Ocklynge Road, Eastbourne, was summoned for selling a certain compounded drug, consisting of a mixture of iodide of potassium, mercuric chloride, and infusion of quassia, which was not composed of the ingredients in accordance with the demand of the purchaser, being 78 per cent. deficient in mercuric chloride.

The Town Clerk (Mr. H. W. Fovargue) prosecuted, and Mr. T. E. V. Kirtlan defended.

The Town Clerk stated that the prescription was written by Dr. Willoughby (medical officer of health), and the medicine dispensed by defendant was certified by the borough



analyst to be 75 per cent. deficient in mercuric chloride, one of the most essential ingredients.

Dr. Willoughby produced a copy of the prescription, and said the omission of three-fourths of the mercuric chloride was a serious thing, but he did not suggest it was done to save money. It might have arisen from carelessness. He was cross-examined by Mr. Kirtlan as to the properties of the chloride and its dosage.

Mr. Kirtlan suggested the possibility of an error in the analyses, and produced a letter from the Bournemouth borough analyst.

The Town Clerk: The certificate of our analyst is conclusive unless defendant, three days beforehand, gives us notice of intention to dispute it, and sends the certificate of another analyst. I do not object to my friend quoting from the letter. His own analyst agrees that there is a deficiency. He says it is a deficiency of one-half; our analyst says three-quarters.

Mr. Kirtlan, referring to the Bournemouth analyst's letter, said that the analysis would be difficult, owing to the minute quantity.

Dr. Willoughby: It is important that in these cases there should be no error creeping in. We took samples at other chemists', and they were correct.

The Magistrates' Clerk: In your opinion, does the smallness of the dose deprive the medicine of its benefit?

Dr. Willoughby: Yes. The dose is too small to be of any use.

The defendant was called, and admitted that he had put in less solution of mercuric chloride than prescribed because he was afraid the patient would take more than the two tablespoonfuls. He was rather severely questioned by the Bench as to his right to interfere with what the doctor prescribed, and the Bench also suggested to the solicitor that his examination of him would do his client no good. Replying to the Magistrates' Clerk, defendant said he had been a qualified chemist since 1882. He carried on business in Eastbourne four years, and is now assistant to Mr. Edwards, Hastings.

■ The Chairman, in finding the charge proved, said, "The costs are heavy, and it is a very serious matter that we are at the mercy of chemists in this way. In this case no harm as been done. In view of the position you occupy, we shall impose a fine of 2*l.*, and 1*s.* 6*d.* costs."

#### IRON-PILLS.

CHARLES ROBINSON, chemist, of 114 High Road, Streatham, was summoned at the South-West London Police Court on July 1 for selling iron-pills deficient in ferrous carbonate to the extent of 63 per cent. The defendant pleaded that he obtained the pills from a most respectable wholesale house, and sold them believing them to be compounded according to the Pharmacopœia. Mr. Garrett (the Magistrate), while believing defendant's plea, said the deficiency was serious, as a person's health might depend upon it. He imposed a fine of 10*l.*, and 12*s.* 6*d.* costs.

#### County Court Case.

##### NO WANT OF CARE.

AT the Hampshire Assizes, at Winchester, on June 30, Mr. T. J. Thornton, of Southsea, brought an action against Messrs. Mumby & Co., mineral-water manufacturers, Portsmouth, for damages for injuries alleged to have been sustained through drinking soda-water of their manufacture. It was alleged that there had been negligence on the part of the defendants in preparing a bottle of soda-water. Plaintiff stated that on June 25 he drank some whisky diluted with the defendants' soda-water, and after doing so became very ill, was purged, and had a burning sensation in his throat and stomach. When the remainder of the soda-water was analysed, it was found to contain particles of coal-tar. This, it was suggested, was due to the stopper having been brought into contact with the coal-tar. For the defence evidence was given of the elaborate precautions taken to protect the bottles by washing. It was said that all stoppers were left for about an hour in hot water, and any that smelt were immediately destroyed by being thrown into a furnace. The jury found there had been no want of reasonable care on the part of the defendants, and the action was dismissed, with costs.

## Westminster Wisdom.

(From our Parliamentary Representative.)

#### THE POISONS BILL

has not yet appeared, and as matters stand at present its appearance this Session seems impossible. The rumour in respect to it is now regarded as a *ballon d'essai*.

#### THE OPIUM-TRAFFIC.

A debate on the opium-traffic in China is to take place in the House of Lords on Tuesday. The Bishop of Durham has given notice of his intention to ask the House to declare that "British action in respect to the importation of opium into China has had disastrous results, particularly in the spread of the opium vice in China, where it is now a great national evil, and in generating feelings of hostility to British subjects and interests in the mind of the Chinese people; and that it is unworthy of a Christian Power to be commercially interested in the supply of the drug to China."

#### MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS.

Friday was the last day devoted to Bills promoted by private members, and as Mr. Balfour has announced his intention of not giving any special facilities to measures that excite opposition, the Shop-hours Bill may now be written down as dead. It still continues to figure on the Parliamentary agenda, but for this Session at least we are not likely to hear anything more about it. Mr. Sloan asked the President of the Board of Trade on Tuesday whether it is the intention of the Government to bring in a Bill this Session similar to the one of last year regulating the supply of water-gas and other poisonous gases. In a printed answer Mr. Bonar Law intimated that the Government has no such intention.

#### LYMPH FOR SCOTLAND.

Whilst the great minds of the House are revolving questions of fiscal policy and settling the details of the Irish Land Bill, Mr. Weir is still concerned about the supply of lymph for Scotland. He asked the President of the Local Government Board to state why glycerinated calf-lymph prepared at the Board's laboratory is not supplied free of charge to the Local Government Board for Scotland for the use of parochial vaccinators in Scotland, having regard to the fact that last year the Scottish Board paid to Dr. Blaxall, a salaried officer of the London Board, the sum of 105*l.* for lymph which was prepared in the Board's laboratory and produced from the Board's calves. He also wanted to know why Dr. Blaxall was allowed to sell for his own profit lymph prepared in an establishment supported out of Imperial funds. Mr. Long stated in reply that under an arrangement of a provisional character, made in 1899, the Local Government Board for Scotland pay Dr. Blaxall 105*l.* per annum for a certain quantity of lymph. The lymph is prepared at the laboratory at Chelsea, but the cost of its production and preparation, he explained, is borne by Dr. Blaxall. Dr. Blaxall, it was further pointed out, is not required to devote his whole time to his duties under the Local Government Board, and as the arrangement does not interfere with those duties, and was desired by the Local Government Board of Scotland, the Department offered no objection to it.

#### DR. CADELL AGAIN.

Mr. Weir has also had something further to say to the Lord Advocate on the subject of the supply of lymph in Auld Reekie. He was anxious to learn what facilities Dr. Cadell has for the production of lymph, and why glycerinated calf-lymph is not used for the whole of the work of parochial vaccinators. Mr. Graham Murray informed him that Dr. Cadell, as superintendent of vaccination at the New Town Dispensary, Edinburgh, collects vaccine-lymph from the arms of children vaccinated by him, and hitherto has experienced no difficulty in supplying all the lymph required by the Central Vaccine Institution for Scotland. There are, the Lord Advocate explained, a few parochial vaccinators who prefer humanised vaccine-lymph, and they are supplied with it accordingly.



## Trade Notes.

**APOTHECARIES' TITLES.**—We understand that the book advertised by "Medicus" in our supplement is not connected with the assistants' certificate agitation, which has originated in Bradford, but has to do with apothecaries' titles.

**SANOSIN.**—In addition to the agents we have already named for this new phthisis remedy, should be added the names of Wilcox, Jozeau & Co., 49 Haymarket, and W. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, W.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC LIST.**—Mr. J. E. Lockyer, 244 to 250 Evelyn Street, Deptford, S.E., sends us a copy of his home list of photographic requirements. It contains prices and descriptions of all the J.E.L. specialties, including a series of dry-powder developers which are now so popular.

**MESSRS. JEANCARD FILS, Cannes,** have appointed Mr. J. F. Child, of Chesterfield House, 98 Great Tower Street, London, E.C. (formerly manager of the London Essence Company), as their sole representative for the British Isles and Colonies, and Messrs. P. and R. Doumin will be associated with him.

"**TABLOID**" QUININE SALICYLATE has hitherto been made by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., in 3 gr. size, but they have now added a 1 gr. tabloid which is put up in bottles of 24 and 100. This smaller dose is sometimes required in neuralgia and in cases of intestinal irritation due to toxins.

**MR. OWBRIDGE'S BUSINESS.**—In referring last week to the death of Mr. W. T. Owbridge, Proprietor of Owbridge's Lung Tonic, we stated that the business of the deceased had been converted into a private limited liability company. This is not the case. The business remained Mr. Owbridge's private property, and was under his sole control and direction up to the date of his death.

**TWO NOVELTIES** come to us from Messrs. Baiss Brothers & Stevenson (Limited), Jewry Street, E.C. One is "Rosoline," a water-softener for the bath, in unpolished-wood tubs, artistically labelled. It is delightfully perfumed, and does its work well; may be retailed at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ z. The other is syrup of figs—a good galenic, nicely packed in bottle and carton, the 4-oz. size costing 4s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ z. per doz. net.

**MESSRS. DEFRIES & SONS (LIMITED),** of Houndsditch, E.C., illuminated the Home Office, Colonial Office, the Treasury, and all the Government buildings on the King's Birthday. The crystal device executed for the façade of the Westminster City Hall was lighted for the first time. Kensington Town Hall, as well as the premises of the leading West-end clubs and business houses, had an illuminated display.

**AN UP-TO-DATE LIST.**—From W. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, W., we receive a copy of his July price-list. It is part I., consisting of over 30 pages, and from a cursory examination we find it is right up to date—the newest remedies are included—Argyrol, effervescent aspirin, ethyl chloride (Hedley), pyrenol, radium bromide, rhinodyne, savore, sanosin, and veronal. This is the first wholesale-druggist's list in which we have seen radium bromide quoted.

**MAW'S LIST.**—The latest quarterly price-list and book of illustrations issued by Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, 7 to 12 Aldersgate Street, E.C., has been considerably altered and improved over the previous editions. The books are reduced to a more convenient superficial measure—9 $\frac{1}{2}$  by 6—the type has been reset, and the matter re-arranged. The price-list critics who recently complained of the arrangement of some of the wholesale lists will have reason in adding Maw's list to the approved ones. Anomalies in arrangement which had grown up in the course of years, and had given some room for complaint, have been done away with, so that now the merest tyro will have no difficulty in finding his way through the list. The book of illustrations is also reduced to the same size as the price-list, whilst the greatly extended use of half-tone blocks gives the illustrations more value. The use of special paper in each case has resulted in a saving in bulk, although there are of necessity more pages than in the former series.

## Personalities.

**MR. LOUIS BAUER,** President of Bauer & Black, Chicago, sailed for the United States on Wednesday. He has spent four months in Europe along with Mrs. Bauer and Miss Bauer.

**MR. T. H. BEAVAN LONG,** pharmaceutical chemist, of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.'s staff, who is well known to our readers in India, Burmah, and Ceylon, is now in England on holiday.

**MR. D. W. JONES,** who until five or six years ago, carried on business as a chemist and druggist in Aberdare, has just been placed on the commission of the peace for the country of Glamorgan.

**MR. GEORGE J. SEABURY,** of New York City, accompanied by Dr. Eugène R. Hynard, arrived in the *Cedric* on Saturday, having had an excellent passage. Mr. Seabury is to be in London for a few weeks. Before leaving New York he helped to choose an American eight for Bisley, and he will go there himself to see that they shoot straight.

**MR. A. CROFT HILL, M.A., F.C.S.,** whose work in connection with enzyme action is familiar to English chemists, has received his M.D. degree from the University of Cambridge, the subject of his thesis being "The Process of Chemical Synthesis in Living Things." It received honourable mention. The substance of the thesis was communicated to the *British Medical Journal* of June 20.

ON June 26 at Glensak, Exeter, Mr. James Townsend (senior partner of James Townsend & Son, chemists' printers, Exeter and London) received a deputation of twelve employes of the firm, representing an average of over thirty years' service, who presented him with his portrait in oils, in a massive oak frame, with an inscription. The presentation was made by Mr. F. S. Crouch.

## Business Changes.

**MR. R. L. AGAR,** chemist and druggist, has purchased the business at 59 Queen Street, Ramsgate, formerly carried on by Mr. Gadd.

**MR. JOHN T. T. ROLFE,** chemist and druggist, has acquired the business carried on for many years at 14 Market Place, Faversham, by Mr. Matthew Laxon, pharmaceutical chemist.

**MR. J. JONES,** chemist and druggist, Liscard, Cheshire, has sold his business to a Mr. Yates, Blackpool, and has purchased from Mr. J. H. Gray, of Dale Street, Liverpool, his branch business at Kingsley Road there.

THE business of the late Mr. J. L. Roberts, pharmaceutical chemist in the Market Square, Millom, has been purchased by Mr. F. S. Dixon, chemist and druggist, of St. George's Terrace, Millom, who will carry on both establishments.

NEW pharmacies will shortly be opened by Mr. H. T. Hines at Colworth House, Wallwood Park, Leytonstone, E., and at Pitfield Street, Hoxton, E. The fittings are supplied by Messrs J. Richards & Co., 48 Sewardstone Road, Victoria Park, N.E.

**BOOTS (LIMITED)** have secured premises in Mansfield Road, Nottingham, lately occupied by a confectioner. It is a corner shop, opposite to that in which Mr. Wm. Ashby, chemist and druggist, has for a number of years carried on business.

**MR. HARRIS,** chemist and druggist, Bury New Road, Strangeways, Manchester, has sold his business to Mr. Richard Weiss, chemist and druggist. The transfer was effected through the agency of Messrs. Tomlinson & Son, New Cannon Street, Manchester.

**MESSRS. COOPER & Co.,** chemists and mineral-water manufacturers, 80 Gloucester Road, South Kensington, and 24 Sloane Street, Belgravia, S.W., have purchased the business, book-debts, &c., of the late Mr. Charles Bridges pharmaceutical chemist, 24 Sloane Street, London, S.W.



## Association Affairs.

### Halifax Chemists' Association.

ON June 29 the members of this Association met at the Old Cock Hotel, Halifax, to discuss in an informal way the provisions of the Stamp Act. Mr. J. Briggs (Sowerby Bridge), the President, was in the chair. There was a large attendance. The PRESIDENT said they were met to learn each other's views with regard to the Medicine-stamp Acts and as to how the new decisions would affect them in regard to the sale of quinine wine. As he understood the law, it was this—that, with respect to no article in the possessive case, if in the Pharmacopœia, was the qualified chemist liable to stamp duty. A long and animated conversational discussion followed, in which Mr. COBBE asked if a beer-licence holder could have a methylated-spirit licence as well. The general opinion of the meeting was that he could. Mr. TIFFANY asked if grocers would be able to sell penny boxes of pills taken from a stamped package of pills; for instance, a grocer got, say, his supply in 2s. 9d. parcels or boxes—could he break open the parcel and sell the contents in penny boxes without being liable to stamp-duty? Mr. HEBDEN agreed that the point was an important one, because, if the grocer were not liable to stamp-duty, the Act would not much affect them. On the other hand, if they were liable, it would kill the penny-box trade as far as grocers were concerned. As far as chemists were concerned, it became a question for them which way cut best. There were certain mixtures—cough-mixtures, for instance—in which some of them were in the habit of selling large quantities to grocers, and the query for them was this—Was a grocer to be allowed to sell a pure drug under any condition whatever? If he were, then the thing came to this—Was it worth the while of chemists fighting it? Should they not let the thing alone, and leave the opposition to fight it as they thought best. Eventually the meeting was adjourned for the purpose of getting further information on the points raised by Mr. Tiffany and Mr. Hebden.

### Northampton Chemists' Association.

THE monthly meeting was held at the Black Boy Hotel, Northampton, on Friday, June 26, Mr. Evan C. Ashford (Vice-President) in the chair.

It was decided that the meetings should be discontinued during the summer months. An excursion may be arranged.

The CHAIRMAN said that he thought that the chemists of Northampton should endeavour to put their views upon the question of the

#### SALE OF POISONS,

such as arsenical sheep-dips, by ironmongers and seedsmen, before the Northamptonshire Chamber of Agriculture, which, he understood, was likely to discuss the matter before long. It was agreed to do so.

A brisk discussion then took place upon the recent decision in regard to the medicine-stamp duty, and Councillor FRED ASHFORD moved—

That this meeting of the Northampton and District Chemists' Association urges the Pharmaceutical Society to do all in its power to influence opinion in Parliament to secure the removal of such a serious inconvenience and irksome restriction as the imposition of the stamp-duty upon small quantities of familiar household remedies, such as penny boxes of liver-pills, antibilious pills, &c., which have been universally sold, without payment of duty, by chemists for more than a hundred years; this meeting believes, further, that the recent decision will constitute a very great disadvantage to the poorer classes of the community, who will in future have to pay 2½d. for a penny article.

Mr. W. MCKINNELL seconded, and Mr. GEORGE INGLE supported, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO COUNCILLOR ASHFORD.

Mr. W. MCKINNELL, in the name of the Association, tendered heartiest congratulations to Mr. Fred C. Ashford upon his election to the Northampton Town Council. He also congratulated Mr. E. C. Ashford (the Vice-President) upon his son's success. Mr. L. NORTH seconded and Mr. FLINTON HARRIS supported, and the motion having been carried, the CHAIRMAN and his son thanked the members.

### Nottingham Chemists' Association.

AT the last meeting of this Association a resolution expressing approval of the Pharmacy Act was passed, and it was decided to urge the various members of Parliament in the county to vote in favour of the measure. Replies have been received by Mr. Eberlin, the Secretary to the Association, from the whole of the Members. Lord Henry Bentinck has promised to consider the objections urged against the relaxation of the poisons regulations. Mr. J. H. Yoxall says that he will give careful and judicious consideration to both sides; both Mr. E. Bond and Mr. J. E. Ellis do not believe that the Bill will make much progress this Session, and Sir Frederick Milner promises to give the matter careful attention.

### Edinburgh Chemists' Trade Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on June 26, Mr. W. S. Glass (Chairman) presiding. There was a good attendance of members. The CHAIRMAN proposed Mr. Clark, Morningside Road, and the HON. SECRETARY proposed Mr. Thomas Stephenson, George Street, as members. The HON. SECRETARY also intimated that he had received a letter from Mr. Bremridge acknowledging receipt of the resolution passed at their last meeting with reference to the Poisons Committee's report, and stating that it would receive attention.

#### FEDERATION RULES.

The HON. SECRETARY reported having received a communication from the Secretary of the Federation of Local Associations inviting criticisms for increasing the usefulness of the Federation, and stating that any suggestions would be accepted as notices of motion, and submitted for discussion at the next annual meeting of delegates at Bristol. The letter was remitted to the committee for consideration.

#### POISONS COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Hon. Secretary submitted a letter from the Secretary of the Federation, stating that his Executive Committee thought it advisable that members of Parliament should be at once approached with regard to this report, and suggesting that without attempting to forestall the Pharmaceutical Council, or embarrass its officials in whatever line of action they might decide upon, a letter should be sent to members, preferably as a memorial, signed by all registered men in the Parliamentary division or divisions covered by their Association. Such a communication might pave the way for further correspondence or for a personal interview by deputation, when a plan of campaign has been formulated and prompt and decisive action decided upon.

The CHAIRMAN thought they might take some action with regard to this letter.

Mr. DUNCAN MCGLASHAN said that all members of Parliament ought to be asked to support the Council's view, and this would be one of the best ways of bringing it before them.

Mr. BOA pointed out that the Bill they had been anticipating, dealing with these poisons, was apparently about to be introduced into Parliament, and he thought that probably they would have to take some steps in the matter very shortly. If they dealt with the matter now, it might mean that they were canvassing members of Parliament with too much literature. He thought it might be as well to wait and see what headquarters were going to suggest. The circumstances had altered in a way since that letter was written, as they really did not anticipate that there would be any Bill introduced this Session.

Mr. MACPHERSON agreed with Mr. Boa. If the projected Bill was introduced in the House of Lords, action ought to be directed to the House of Lords in the first instance, and not to the House of Commons.

Mr. CLARK, Mr. BLENKIRON, and Mr. R. L. HENDRY also expressed opinions that action should be delayed.

The CHAIRMAN thought with regard to the Poisons Committee's report they could hardly do anything, but he was inclined to think that something might be done about the Pharmacy Bill. He was inclined to think they had been rather long in taking action on the Poisons Committee's report.



They had neglected this question far too much. They had been waiting for some time for headquarters to advise them, and they might have to wait very much longer before they got any advice from them, he was afraid. He supposed they had better leave the matter alone in the meantime.

This was agreed to.

#### ANNUAL REPORT.

The HON. SECRETARY then submitted the annual report, which stated that the membership is now seventy-eight, an increase of four during the year. Four association meetings and six committee meetings had been held. The work of the past year was reviewed, the chief questions discussed being the Drug-trade Appeal Fund, the question of chemists' titles, a proposal to communicate with medical practitioners regarding prescribing proprietary medicines, the Poisons Committee's report, and the question of territorial representation on the Council. The report further stated that the label-book and the list of "out-of-the-way articles" had both been considerably extended, and had as hitherto proved useful to members, but the former would require complete revision on account of the recent decision affecting the liability of labels.

Mr. R. L. HENDRY (Treasurer) submitted the financial report, from which it appeared that there was a balance of 39*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* in the favour of the Association.

The report and financial statement were adopted.

#### P.A.T.A. SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the P.A.T.A. calling attention to a resolution which was adopted at the P.A.T.A. Convention in November suggesting that local associations should take in hand the collection of the annual subscriptions on their behalf. The opinion of the meeting seemed to be that it would be better for someone outside their Association to undertake this matter, and it was agreed to take no action.

#### STAMP-DUTIES.

The Hon. Secretary, in introducing this subject, said he had been applied to by a good many as to what was to be done, and he had gathered a little information on the subject, and he thought if he brought it up there it might be useful. So far as he could make out there was a good deal yet to be decided in regard to labels. The first communication he received was from an outsider, who had sent up certain labels to ascertain what was or was not liable to duty. He found that the labels "Worm-powders" and "Chilblain-liniment" were liable to duty; "Nature's Liniment" was not liable, but "Wee Worm-lozenges," "The Mixture (Special)," and "Bronchial-cough Tincture," were liable. "Liver-pills" was said to be liable to duty, and so was "The Blood-mixture." With regard to "Chemical Food or Compound Syrup of the Phosphates of Lime, Iron, and Potass," he said it was a curious thing that it was marked as liable to duty.

Mr. DUNCAN MCGLASHAN: It is a very bad description.

Mr. BOA: It is not the specific formula from which it is made.

Mr. HENRY said it gave the ingredients. There was a note with reference to it that, in the case of a sale by a duly qualified chemist or druggist, the use of the "Chemical Food" label which was submitted would not be regarded as rendering that preparation liable to direct stamp-duty, provided that either a statement of the formula from which the article was prepared was inserted in the label, or that the article was prepared in accordance with a formula in the B.P. or other well-known book of reference, and a statement to that effect was inserted in the label. Evidently the ingredients stated in that way caused the label to be not liable to duty, and they must have a reference to the published work in which the formula occurred.

Mr. MACPHERSON: Or the formula distinctly stated.

Mr. HENRY said he had sent up some labels himself, and from the reply he received when they were returned it seemed that they would not pass "Ammoniated liniment of opium (Dr. Bow)." It was marked liable to duty. There must be a statement on the label of some published work from which the formula was taken, or a statement of the ingredients, also all the quantities, according to THE

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. "Dr. Gregory's stomachic-powder (compound rhubarb-powder, B.P.)" was not liable to duty. "Chilblain-liniment," "Neuralgic application," "Application for corns," "Antibilious pills (Thomson)" and "Aperient pills (Hamilton)," were all marked liable to duty. The "Chemical-food" label (according to Dr. Parrish's recipe) was not liable to duty. In writing to the Inland Revenue he asked regarding the sale of a pennyworth of pills. He asked the question as much in the interest of poor customers as in the interest of chemists—how they could sell a pennyworth of pills, Hamilton's or Thomson's, with the duty? In the first place it was impracticable to put the published formula of Thomson's pills on the label, and he pointed out that it would be very hard that they should have to charge 2*d.* for a 1*d.* box of pills after this. They did not answer that question, but explained that in practice the Board did not object to a licensed vendor breaking open a duly stamped packet of pills and powders, and retailing them without additional duty, provided they were sold merely wrapped up in paper which was not sealed, gummed, or tied with string, or fastened in any other way. If that sentence were read out in Parliament it would show the absurdity of the thing, and if they could do something to get the Act amended it would be well, in order that it might be carried out in the interests of the public as well as in the interests of the Revenue.

Mr. BOA advised that they should not do anything precipitately in this matter, because it was possible that this confusion might work out satisfactorily if they could adapt themselves to it without getting at loggerheads with the public. The pennyworth-of-pills question was more for the people going to use them than those who were to sell them. If the public found they had to pay a 1½*d.* stamp on a pennyworth of pills they would probably get a member of Parliament to put a question in the House of Commons, and elicit the information from the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In many ways it might be to their advantage to let the thing go, and at the present moment he would take no steps to get the old order of things continued. He took it that the descriptions "Hamilton's pills," "Gregory's pills," "Christison's pills," were quite in keeping with the requirements of the Board of Inland Revenue, if they indicated the formulae from which they were made up. The formulae were known to everyone in the trade, and were contained in all books of reference on the subject, and he did not think any Court would listen for a moment to the suggestion otherwise.

Mr. R. L. HENDRY thought they should have as much uniformity of labels as possible about the formula, because customers would be coming in for the B.P. kind, or Squire's, or some other.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the labels they had at present might be used by stamping them with a rubber stamp marked "according to the formula" in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. The Editor had promised to publish formulae, and had allowed his collected formulae to be referred to. He looked upon the whole matter in rather a different light from that of those who had spoken. He thought it might ultimately be to their advantage to have this change of tactics by the Inland Revenue, when they considered that the companies were not qualified chemists, and were not allowed to sell these without being stamped, he did not think they should follow the lines which they were likely to follow. Rather let them put themselves in the position of supplying as formerly penny packets or boxes of "Gregory's mixture" or antibilious pills by following the formula. Limited companies would not be able to do that.

After further discussion a vote of thanks was given to Mr. C. F. Henry for the trouble he had taken in the matter.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. BOA moved that the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer be re-elected, and Mr. JAMES MCGLASHAN seconded, but Mr. C. F. HENRY said his medical adviser had enforced upon him that he must take what rest he could get, and ultimately Mr. Rowland was appointed Secretary, Mr. McBain Joint Secretary, and Mr. L. Hendry was re-elected Treasurer. A committee was also appointed. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Henry for the untiring and unselfish work on behalf of the Association, which was acknowledged by Mr. HENRY.



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

### The Legal Complications

resulting from the judgments in *Ransom v. Sanguinetti* and *Farmer v. Glyn-Jones* cases are decidedly discouraging. Most of us, I should think, would gladly, if we could, revert to the *status quo ante* both contests. When we last year so breezily resolved on a war-chest, and got together our Drug-trade Appeal Fund, we were, like Frankenstein, only constructing a monster whose one aim would be to inflict retribution on its creators. Mr. Boot and the rest of us who contributed to that fund—he especially—can mingle our tears of repentance together over this business. If I had been one of the mean men who did not subscribe, I should assume airs now. I should say it never pays in the long run to court litigation, and that I knew that all the time. A famous old epitaph runs: "I was well, I would be better, and here I am."

### Nobody is to Blame.

The Committee of the Drug-trade Appeal Fund merely agreed to defend positions which had already been won in Magistrates' courts, and against which the Inland Revenue had appealed. What would those of us whose *metier* is to criticise have said if they had abandoned the struggle at the critical moment? They hired the most costly counsel they could find to oppose the Law Officers of the Crown, and it was not their fault if the costly counsel made such a poor fight for them. They never even got the one red herring which Mr. Justice Grantham intimates we all have a right to expect from costly counsel. They won one case and lost the other, and it was thought at the time that the balance was in the trade's favour. Now that the two judgments are being read together, groans are in the ascendant.

### Nemesis

is having a fine time with the companies, and this is, perhaps, the sweet drop in the bitter draught. Our rivals scored twenty years ago with the glorious fact that they could not pass examinations, and that therefore certain sections of the Pharmacy Act did not apply to them. Now the parallel disability to serve an apprenticeship excludes them from the chemists' exemption section of the Medicine-stamp Act. This is only historic justice. But this interpretation suggests another pretty complication. Chemists within the meaning of the Medicine-stamp Act were persons who had served an apprenticeship to the trade. That sufficed then. Does it now? Then there is the wholesale supply of put-up goods. We have grown into such lazy habits that we expect to have most of this kind of work done for us. But wholesale druggists who are companies or who are not chemists within the meaning, may not now sell a liver-mixture unstamped—not even though they print the formula on the label. Certainly something needs to be done to disentangle things, and the Pharmaceutical Council, as the only representative body of chemists, will neglect its duty at this juncture if it does not intervene.

### The Hæmatogen Trade-mark Case,

if fought out, may serve a useful purpose by establishing the exact position of word trade-marks in which what may be called the effective syllables are disclaimed. In registering hæmatogen, for instance, it appears that "hæmato" was disclaimed. The counsel on the other side says, therefore, only "gen" was registered. But the Judge seemed to think that was not quite the way to put the case. The owners of the mark dis-

claimed "hæmato," therefore, according to him, other people may use "hæmato-tooral-rooral" if they like. It is, in short, the combination of "hæmato" and "gen" which is protected (if the mark is in other respects valid). Now, on page 1,023 of last *C. & D.*, among seven newly registered trade-marks, I find four in which the effective syllable is disclaimed. These are "Turpene," "Batholene," "Cementine," and "Photoids." "Turp," "batho," "cement," and "photo" are the disclaimed particles. But (adapting Mr. Justice Byrne's explanation) it appears that the combination of "turp" and "ene" and "cement" and "ine" are to be booked and monopolised for ever. We have progressed or retrograded a good way since the Comptroller of Trade-marks refused to recognise "Solio" as an invented word, and now accepts "Cementine" without demur.

### The Previous Question

by which Mr. Maben was bowled out at a meeting of the North British Branch on the subject of the Preliminary examination after his opponent had had a full innings, appears to be misunderstood at public meetings. The previous question in the instance referred to was carried; then, according to parliamentary usage, the discussion on the question at issue should have gone on. In the House of Commons "the previous question" is that "the question be now put," and the mover and seconder of "the previous question" vote against it. They are generally, indeed, the tellers for the Noes. If they win—that is, if the Noes have it—the discussion on the main issue is, at least, postponed.

### Old-age Pensions

provide a topic which, under present conditions, cannot be dealt with in this page. I only mention it because a Surrey chemist, who has previously favoured me with valuable comments, has sent two pamphlets on this subject for my perusal. I have read them with interest and profit, but I may only remark here that it must be a source of some apprehension to earnest social reformers to find a problem which so urgently needs patient consideration drifting into dependence on a great partisan contest. When we remember that, notwithstanding our Benevolent Fund, by which, in some measure, and perhaps in proportion to our means in a greater measure than almost any other class, we seek to succour those of our fellows who have fallen by the way; when we remember, I say, that in spite of these efforts there are still, according to the last census, no fewer than 118 chemists and druggists in the ranks of English paupers, we begin to realise the magnitude of the social task before us. The Benevolent Fund subscriptions would need to be multiplied tenfold or thereabouts to provide, say, 1*l.* a week for all needy chemists from the age of sixty.

### That Fund

is not an insurance or thrift fund, nor a sick-club, nor a pension scheme, and should not be confounded with these, as it sometimes is. It is a Benevolent Fund, and so long as it is that, need must be, as I believe it is, the only passport to its benefits. But there is one thing about that fund which wants saying, though it is grievously bad form to say it. Look through its subscription-list for the names of the now largest retail employers of pharmaceutical labour. I have thought of about a dozen of the multi-shop-proprietors, and I find two of them in the list with twenty guineas to their names in the past twenty years. One of the great companies, I believe, has some private fund of its own, the details of which I do not know. But I have heard of others, whose assistants to their knowledge have been helped by our Benevolent Fund, who recognise no obligation on themselves to aid it. I should like to see a national pension fund, if only that such companies should be compelled to realise their responsibilities.



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## Editorial Comments.

### Naming Remedies.

V.

THE COMPANY DISQUALIFICATION.

MR. BONSEY, in the course of his remarks in the case of *Spencer v. Needhams*, argued that companies are entitled to the privilege granted to qualified chemists by the decision in *Farmer v. Glyn-Jones*. As one of the counsel for the respondent in that case his opinion is entitled to great respect, and it is regrettable that he seized the first opportunity to stop his argument and back out of the case. As far as he had gone he did not, in our opinion, show any sound reason for his statement. There was but one point which seemed to support his contention, and that was his assertion, stated with a boldness that almost convinced those who knew better, that this company-question was not raised at all in *Smith v. Mason*. We need not repeat here what Mr. Bonsey said, as we give full notes of his argument on page 8. On several occasions since the *Glyn-Jones* case came forward we have stated that limited companies would not benefit by it, and have quoted from the report of *Smith v. Mason*, which appeared in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* at the time. That case was heard by Justices Cave and Collins (the latter now Master of the Rolls) in the Queen's Bench Division on May 30, 1894, and was an appeal by the Revenue authorities against the decision of the Durham Justices refusing to convict *Mason & Co. (Limited)* for selling unstamped Gregory's powder and homœopathic tincture of *nux vomica* which had been recommended. In the case stated by the Justices for the opinion of the Court it was mentioned as a fact that "the respondent company



was a registered company under the Companies Acts, 1862 and 1890"; and Mr. Danckwerts, who appeared for the Crown, suggested that if there was evidence to the contrary, it should have been given before the Magistrates, where, however, no evidence was called on behalf of Mason & Co. (Limited). It was also found as a fact by the Magistrates that the company sold the articles—an assistant conducting the sale. Mr. T. Willes Chitty, for the respondents, claimed the benefit of the exemption secured by Mr. Glyn-Jones, saying "the price-list states that prescriptions are dispensed by duly qualified chemists. There is no evidence to the contrary, and therefore the special exemptions apply." Mr. Justice Cave, in the course of his judgment allowing the appeal and remitting the case to the Magistrates with an intimation that they ought not to have dismissed the informations, said:

It is contended that the respondents come within the exemption, under the heading of "Special Exemptions," in the schedule of the Act of 1812, but when the exemption is read we find it in these terms: "All medicinal drugs whatsoever which shall be uttered or vended entire, without any mixture or composition whatsoever, by any surgeon, apothecary, chemist, or druggist who hath served a regular apprenticeship . . . or by any other person whatsoever licensed to sell any of the medicines chargeable with a stamp-duty." &c. The exemption is, therefore, confined to persons who have served a regular apprenticeship, or are duly licensed to sell medicines with a stamp-duty; and it does not apply to persons who do not come within that description. For these reasons, I am of opinion that the special proviso does not apply, and that there is a good *prima facie* case against the respondent so far as relates to Gregory's powder. With regard to the tincture of nux vomica, I am of the same opinion. . . . It is not vended entire without any mixture. . . . Moreover, there is no proof of any licence which would justify the respondents in selling these medicines chargeable with stamp-duty.

We quote the foregoing from the *Law Reports*, 1894, vol. 2. It will be seen that Mr. Bonsey's statement that the company-question did not arise is not quite correct, but the point may have been secondary. Our own report (*C. & D.*, June 2, 1894, page 765) shows that Mr. Justice Cave said, in the course of Mr. Chitty's remarks: "Where does it appear that this was sold by a chemist or druggist who has served an apprenticeship? . . . This is sold by a company for the benefit of the company." Which *obiter dictum* he made a definite judicial interpretation in his judgment. Mr. Justice Collins agreed "for the same reasons." The Board of Inland Revenue had other cases to guide them when they came to the decision as to ailment-names published in our issue of June 6. To them *Smith v. Mason* has been of great service, for, besides the company-point, the judgment placed beyond dispute the following *dicta*:

- (1) An "entire drug" does not include a simple preparation thereof.
- (2) A printed recommendation of a medicine incurs liability to stamp-duty, although the recommendation is not delivered with or affixed to the medicine.
- (3) A sale by an employé is regarded as a sale by his employer.

In connection with this company-question it has been represented to us that the Board of Inland Revenue cannot mean that companies of qualified chemists should not enjoy the exemption, for the reason that in many cases such companies are practically the same in *personnel* as they were before incorporation. This overlooks the fact that in the conversion of a personal business the concern is legally transferred to the limited company, and, so far as the Medicine-stamp Acts and some other laws are concerned, the quondam owners and present managers are in the position of employés of the company.

#### FESTINA LENTE.

This appears to be the advice of the Pharmaceutical Council in regard to the dutiable-medicine crisis. It is

sound advice, and, although substantially what we have said in every issue last month, the trade does not appear to be in a temper to accept it. Our Correspondence-columns testify to the feeling, and also, unfortunately, to imperfect knowledge of the facts and limited outlook as to the effects of the new interpretation of the law. On one point there is substantial agreement—viz., that until September 30 is a rather short time to give for using up, in whole or greater part, the labels and other printed matter referring to hitherto non-liable articles. We suggested to the Board of Inland Revenue that the new interpretation should not be put into force until January 1, 1904, and we are still of opinion that this extension is desirable. This is a point upon which the Pharmaceutical Council might have acted at once, but having, after three-quarters of an hour *in camera*, decided upon the *festina lente* policy, the Council doubtless gave weight to the view that the new interpretation will in the end work out solely to the advantage of qualified chemists. We strongly advise our readers to give thought to this view, and not to harp too much upon the petty difficulties of the moment. This is not the only time that the drug-trade has been roused by strict interpretation of these Acts. There have been several great awakenings during the past century, especially in 1830, and in each of the decades since, when things were said and proposals made similar to what are before us now. But for the first time an advantage to qualified chemists is the incitement, and the protestants appear not to realise it. We give again a single example to illustrate the matter as it stands:

#### ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.

PREPARED ACCORDING

TO "PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULAS," PAGE 576.

Any qualified chemist may sell pills so labelled without stamping, but nobody else may. It is a case of a penny-worth of the pills costing 1*d.* at the chemist's and 2½*d.* in other shops. Is this not an advantage to the qualified chemist? Those who suggest that the tax should be repealed do not realise that their shops, and 20,000 more that are not chemists', would soon be flooded with twopenny and threepenny unstamped nostrums and sample lots of the most widely advertised proprietaries put up unstamped, so that the public might taste and try before they buy the articles which at present are 1*s.* 1½*d.* and 2*s.* 9*d.* Verily, *festina lente* is the safe policy.

#### OTHER POINTS.

The following labels in our DIARY at present marked "Not liable" will under the new interpretation of the Act be henceforth liable to duty: "Corn and wart paint," "Bronchitis-mixture," "Gripe-water," "Bronchial throat-tablets," "Blood-purifier," "Headache Cologne," "Cold and chill mixture," "Diarrhoea and cholera mixture," "Children's cough-mixture." We may also note that the Board of Inland Revenue do not consider the title "Soothing-syrup" to be dutiable, but "Female Pills" is said to be.

The Secretary of the Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association (Mr. Wm. Cummings) has sent a letter in the following terms to the M.P.s for the district:

DEAR SIR,—The Medicine-stamp Acts have always given chemists a great deal of trouble by the way in which they hamper the sale of common domestic medicines.

What seems to be the last straw has been laid on chemists' backs by a recent decision of the Lord Chief Justice in the High Court, London.

Hitherto chemists have been "permitted" by the Board of Inland Revenue to use such titles as "Cough-mixture," "Liver-pills," "Corn-paint," and such-like, without incurring liability to medicine-duty.

Now chemists have been notified that this concession will cease on September 30 next, in consequence of the decision referred to.



The effect of this will be that when a customer calls for a penny-worth or twopennyworth of "Cough-mixture," "Cough-lozenges," "Corn-plasters," "Antibilious-pills," "Toothache-drops," "Neuralgia-powders," and such-like common everyday wants, the chemist must adopt one or other of these two courses: He must, if he makes use of these descriptive titles, attach a medicine-stamp of the value of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. to every package, an example of oppressive taxation without a parallel; or he must sell the article without putting its name upon it, which would be a most dangerous thing to do, as with an accumulation of boxes of pills and bottles of various mixtures without names, the domestic medicine-cupboard would become a poison-cupboard.

It seems to me that this is a matter to which you ought to draw the attention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, at the same time suggesting to him that the concession which the Board of Inland Revenue has decided shall end on September 30, 1903, should be continued in the interest not only of the poorer classes, but also of the public safety, until a satisfactory amendment of the law be made.

I am, Sir,

Perhaps the secretaries of other Chemists' Associations might follow Mr. Cunnings' example with advantage, but we would point out that the letter does not mention the third course which is open to qualified chemists—viz. the condition upon which the Board of Inland Revenue say they may use ailment-names without stamp-duty. If members of Parliament appeal to Mr. Ritchie, he is sure to be informed by the Revenue department, and it will injure the chemists' case, rather than improve it, to be placed under the ban of concealment. We would suggest that between "descriptive titles" and "attach a medicine-stamp" the following words might be introduced in parent theses:

Unless the published formula is referred to or the composition of the articles are detailed—frequently impossible in the space available.

## A Technical College.

THE fact that Lord Rosebery has, in his public utterances during the past few years, bewailed the advance of applied science in Germany to the disadvantage of Great Britain is probably the reason why he has been selected to put the latest technical-college scheme before the world. In an open letter to the London County Council, published in the London morning papers this week, Lord Rosebery states that an offer has been made by Messrs. Wernher, Beit & Co. "and other public-spirited London citizens" to place a large sum of money in the hands of trustees towards the cost of the building and equipment of an institution in London for the training of young men in all branches of technology and applied science. The model of this institution is the College of Applied Science at Charlottenburg, alongside the University of Berlin, erected at an outlay exceeding 500,000*l.*, and costing 55,000*l.* a year. "From its portals," writes Lord Rosebery, "there issue every year some twelve hundred young men of twenty-two or twenty-three years of age, equipped with the most perfect training that science can give, as experts in chemical technology, electrical engineering, metallurgy, shipbuilding, &c. Of these the ablest are eagerly sought after by the great industrial combinations of the German Empire, which owe their remarkable success in no small degree to the quite exceptional wealth of scientific knowledge and training which is thus placed at their disposal." The Royal Commissioners of the 1851 Exhibition will probably provide the site on condition that funds sufficient for building and equipment have been subscribed, and that an adequate provision is made for maintenance. It is suggested that about four acres of land adjacent to the present University buildings at South Kensington, in close proximity to the Royal College of Science and the Central Technical College of the City and Guilds of London Institute, will be provided on which to erect and equip the new institution. The cost of doing so is estimated at about 300,000*l.*, and the London County Council are asked to guarantee an annual grant of not less than 20,000*l.* for maintenance. The

details of the organisation of the proposed institute have not yet been settled, and they will be considered in consultation with the Senate of the University and other bodies concerned. It is proposed that the institution, whilst working in close co-operation with the Royal College of Science, the Central Technical College, and other branches of the University should be organised as a distinct "school" of the University under the management of its own committee. Such subjects as chemical technology, mining and metallurgy, electro-chemistry, electric traction, optical technology, bacteriology, railway and marine engineering, hydraulics, and naval architecture would be taught to advanced students only, instruction and facilities for original research being provided, but the institution will be made accessible by low fees and scholarships. Among the trustees will be the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Arthur Balfour, Sir Francis Mowatt, Mr. Julius Wernher, Mr. R. B. Haldane, and the Vice-Chancellor and the Principal of the University of London, together with representatives of the London County Council, as the technical education authority for London. Lord Rosebery himself will be chairman.

Such an institution will fill a gap in our industrial armour, but it would be wrong to hope that our industrial insufficiency or trade disadvantages will be made good by imitation of Charlottenburg. Germany started her industries where we left off, so to speak, and her industrial leaders naturally made up through science what they lacked in the experience that is the result of time. Now they have both, and beat us in some respects. What we need most now is for our industrial leaders in all departments to recognise that scientific workers can help them to cheapen production, prevent waste, and improve the output. Up to the present there has been too much of the old leaven to prevent the new enzyme working.

## The British Pharmaceutical Conference.

The Local Committee at Bristol are working hard to make the forthcoming meeting a success. There is a good demand for the books of tickets, and the headquarters are already booked full up. The Royal Hotel is sandwiched between the Cathedral and St. Augustine's, and is opposite the Jubilee statue of Queen Victoria on College Green. A capital system of electric trams enables any part of Bristol or Clifton to be reached in the minimum of time; and, as all trams radiate from the "tram-centre" on St. Augustine's Parade (near the Royal Hotel), it is comparatively easy to understand the plan upon which the trams work. The Clifton Downs Hotel is near the Suspension Bridge and the Downs. The hotel overlooks the magnificent gorge spanned by the bridge, and occupies one of the finest sites in Europe for an hotel. The University College, in the great hall of which the Conference will be held, is about three minutes' walk from the head-quarters, at the top of Park Street, one of the fashionable shopping-quarters. Mr. White's house, where the ladies are to have four-o'clock tea on the Wednesday, is a half-way house to the Zoological Gardens, where high tea will be served. The railway-service to Bristol is excellent; from London by the Great Western the journey occupies two hours and ten minutes in a non-stopping train, and on the Midland, by which railway pharmacists from the Midlands will arrive, the arrangements are equally convenient. The two railways have a joint-terminus at Temple Mead, and some of the electric trams start from a terminus at the station-gates. The idea of tea at Bath on Tuesday is a very happy one, as the stately buildings of that city are well worth inspection. The railway-journey to Bath from Bristol occupies a little over a quarter of an hour. We have given particulars of the way the time of visitors will be occupied in previous issues of the *C. & D.*, and it only remains to be added that early applications for



tickets facilitates the arrangements which the Local Committee have to make with catering and railway-companies. The address of Mr. H. E. Boorne (the Hon. Secretary) is 49 Woodstock Road, Redland Green, Bristol.

### Cheap War Drugs.

Some indignation has been expressed in London and Cape Town wholesale drug circles in consequence of the action of the military authorities in selling off their surplus stocks of drugs and chemicals at below cost price, the result being that in Cape Town many of the local chemists are now overstocked. In referring to the matter, the *South African Bulletin* of Cape Town thinks that British drug-houses ought to have been informed of the glut, as many of their travellers were not aware of the state of matters until they arrived in the country. It is argued, and rightly, that these representatives find that they have undertaken a long, expensive, and fruitless journey with nothing to show their firms but a long list of expenses. The irony of the situation appears to be enhanced by the fact that the military authorities at Pretoria are asking for tenders for no less than 10,000% worth of drugs, and the *Bulletin* wonders why the surplus stock could not have been transferred to Pretoria, instead of being sold off at such low figures. Such a proceeding would, however, be quite inconsistent with the traditions of the War Office. While they were muddling away the 200 millions odd, most of us were content to grumble inaudibly, but when it comes to disturbing trade by unloading their surplus supplies on a narrow market, instead of utilising them for official purposes, we think there are excellent reasons for protest.

### Births.

LLOYD-JONES.—At 420 Prescott Road, Liverpool, on June 27, the wife of H. Lloyd-Jones, chemist and druggist, of a daughter.

OAKLEY-HEALE.—On June 29, at 40 Park Road, Ilford, to Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Oakley-Heale, a daughter.

TOY.—At 2 Duffield Road, Derby, on June 23, the wife of Herbert G. Toy, chemist and druggist, of twin sons.

WELLCOME.—At 55 Welbeck Street, W., on June 26, the wife of Henry S. Wellcome, of a son.

### Marriages.

BROWN—MAXWELL.—At Cross Keys Hotel, Kelso, on June 24, by Rev. W. R. Inglis, assisted by Rev. T. C. Kirkwood, John Brown, pharmaceutical chemist, Berwick-on-Tweed, to Euphemia Heron, younger daughter of Mr. John Maxwell, coachbuilder, Kelso.

CHOTZEN—HIPKINS.—On June 30, at St. Augustine's, Elgbaston, Birmingham, by the Rev. T. Everard Healy, L. Chotzen, of "Asama," Brondesbury Park, N.W., and 108 Fenchurch Street, E.C., to Emily Beatrice, youngest daughter of the late Matthew Hipkins and Mrs. Hipkins, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

ROBINSON—BRADLEY.—At the Congregational Chapel, Brompton, on June 24, by the Rev. J. E. Simon, B.A., John B. Robinson, second son of Mr. C. P. Robinson (Messrs. Robinson & Sons, surgical-dressings manufacturers), Mayor of Chesterfield, to Ada, second daughter of the late James Bradley.

SNOWDON—ECKFORD.—At Ellison Street Presbyterian Church, Jarrow, on June 29, William Hall Snowdon, chemist and druggist, Spennymoor, to Elizabeth T. Eckford.

SPENCE—FINLAYSON.—At All Saints' Church, Finchley Road, St. John's Wood, London, on June 29, by the Rev. Richardson Eyre, Alexander Spence, chemist and druggist, eldest son of the late Robert Spence, M.D., J.P., Linlithgow, to Marion Eleanor, third daughter of the late Alfred Finlay-

son, of Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square, and Mrs. Finlayson, 24 Blenheim Road, St. John's Wood, N.W.

WHELEHAN—WEIR.—On June 24, in the Cathedral, Mullingar, co. Westmeath, by the Rev. Isidore Whelehan, assisted by the Rev. W. Bracker, Thos. P. Whelehan, L.P.S.I., Earl Street, Mullingar, to Julia, daughter of the late Michael Weir, Tullaghan, Mullingar.

### Deaths.

HINKS.—At Worcester, last week, Mr. John Hinks, chemist and druggist, aged fifty-two. Mr. Hinks was in business at the Cross for many years. He was a native of Snitterfield, near Stratford-on-Avon, and served his apprenticeship at Leamington, afterwards becoming an assistant to Messrs. Anderson & Virgo, Worcester. He returned to Leamington for twenty-six years, and subsequently acquired the business of Mr. F. J. Gough, at Worcester, which he carried on successfully for a considerable period, eventually relinquishing it, when ill-health came on, to the present proprietor, Mr. H. J. Aubrey.

HODGES.—At St. George's, Bristol, on June 10, Mr. William Hodges, chemist and druggist, aged eighty-six.

KNIGHT.—At Hinckley, Leicestershire, on June 21, Mr. William Knight, chemist and druggist, aged sixty.

MAXTON.—At Abbey Corner, Kelso, on June 27, Mr. William Murray Maxton, chemist and druggist, who was found dead in his bed, death being certified to be due to heart-failure. Mr. Maxton, after qualifying about twenty years ago, acquired a business in Kelso, which he had conducted successfully. Several of his apprentices were regular competitors in our "Students' Corner," and, thanks largely to the encouragement he gave them, they carried off many prizes. Mr. Maxton was a keen observer and a good writer, as several notable papers which he contributed to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST from time to time testified. He was about forty-four years of age.

ROBOTTOM.—At Silwood Lodge, Brighton, on June 23, Mr. Arthur Robottom, of St. Alban's Villas, Highgate Road, N.W., aged seventy-eight. Few persons in the Mincing Lane drug and chemical trades were not acquainted with Arthur Robottom, "the Borax King." For many years his figure was familiar in the Commercial Salerooms, and confidence in the properties of borax never left him without a subject to talk about. An account of his career, which was replete with adventure and varied incident, was given in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of September 23, 1893. About that time he published a book which told the story of his life. When quite a young man he was impressed with the importance of discovering new sources of supply of borax, and undertook his first journey in 1852 to the Death Valley of Southern California, where he eventually found enormous deposits of borates of soda and lime. He made arrangements for its conveyance by mule-team to San Francisco, returned homewards, and started retailing borax in 1½ packets. He afterwards sold this business to the Patent Borax Company of Birmingham, then started for Asia Minor to investigate the boracite deposits, the outcome of which was the formation of the London Borax Company. He subsequently visited Chili, Peru, and Bolivar, where he found deposits of borates of soda and lime. He also undertook voyages to Brazil and Mexico, which resulted in the introduction of piassava, carnauba wax, and other commodities. At one time he was a man of considerable means, but lost his money in the paraffin-oil business, when "oil" was struck in Pennsylvania. He bore his reverses of fortune, however, with equanimity, and afterwards devoted himself entirely to borax.

SMITH.—At Hythe House, Downham Market, on June 19, Mr. Harry George Smith, chemist and druggist, aged forty-seven.

SQUIRE.—At 105 Portsdown Road, W., on June 25, Herbert Balmanno, son of the late Alfred Herbert Squire, pharmaceutical chemist, aged twenty-one.

STROTHER.—At 486 High Road, Chiswick, on June 26, Eliza Frances (Fanny), wife of Mr. Charles John Strother, Treasurer of the Chemists' Assistants' Association, aged sixty-three.



## Outings.

In connection with the marriage of their son, noted elsewhere in this issue, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Robinson (Mayor and Mayoress of Chesterfield) took the employés of Messrs. Robinson & Sons, Wheatbridge Mills, surgical-dressings manufacturers, Chesterfield—some eighteen hundred in number—to Scarborough on Monday.

The second summer picnic of the members of the Cardiff Pharmaceutical Society took place on July 1. The place selected for visitation was Swanbridge, lying on the coast between Cardiff and Barry. The members proceeded to Lavernock by train, whence they walked to their destination. Tea was partaken of at Swanbridge Farm, and subsequently the party indulged in various amusements. The weather was fine, and a very enjoyable day was spent.

The outing of the West Ham (North) Chemists' Association will be held on July 9. The train leaves Stratford main station (G.E.R.) for Chingford at 3.31 P.M. Brakes will meet this train and convey visitors to the King's Oak; fare, 6d. per head. Those desiring to cycle will meet at the top of Blake Hall Road, Wanstead, outside the "Basin" lake, at 30 sharp. High tea will be served at the King's Oak, High Eech, where arrangements have been made to have the tea in the grounds if the weather is fine; tickets, at 2s. 6d. each, to be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, F. Walter Gwinn, 143 Cann Hall Road, Leytonstone, N.E. As it is necessary to advise the proprietor with regard to the probable number of the party, intending excursionists will please communicate with the Hon. Secretary as soon as possible. Dancing will be permitted after eight o'clock in the banqueting hall. A cycle-track is attached to the grounds, and it is proposed to have races if time permits.

On June 27 the employés of Messrs. Davies, Gibbins & Co., wholesale chemists, of Derby, held their annual excursion to Chatsworth and Haddon. The party left Derby in special carriages by the 9.40 A.M. train for Matlock Bridge, where they were met by brakes and were at once driven to Chatsworth House. After spending a delightful time in the Palace of the Peak, the party proceeded to Bakewell, where dinner, provided by the firm, awaited them at the Castle Hotel. Leaving Bakewell, they drove through the lovely Derbyshire scenery to Haddon Hall, where a delightful hour was passed. After taking a series of photographs, a move was made for Matlock Bath, the drive through this part of the country being specially enjoyed. Reaching Matlock Bath at six o'clock, a substantial tea was partaken of at the Peverel Hotel, after which a pleasant couple of hours was spent listening to the band on the promenade and visiting the lovely spots for which Matlock is famous. The party left Matlock Bath by the 9.20 P.M. train. Derby was reached about ten o'clock. The weather throughout was lovely, and the committee were complimented upon the excellent arrangements.

The annual excursion of the employés of Messrs. Stephen Smith & Co. (Limited), proprietors of Hall's wine, took place on June 20. The destination of this year's trip was Felixstowe, and the party left Liverpool Street station by the 6.48 A.M. train for Ipswich, and thence by steamboat to Felixstowe. Arrangements had previously been made to convey the party in brakes to the Grand Hotel, where ample justice was done to the choice dinner provided. After a two hours' drive in the afternoon, the party returned to the hotel at 5.30 P.M. for tea, after which Mr. H. J. Hall, the managing director of the company, made the usual presentation of watches to those employés who have been with the company upwards of five years, and bonuses to all those who had previously received watches. Very little speech-making takes place at these outings, Mr. Hall being of opinion that his guests should have the full benefit of the change by remaining indoors as little as possible. The return journey was commenced at Felixstowe Town station at 6.48 P.M., and London was reached at 9.25 P.M., after a delightful day's outing. The arrangements made were much appreciated, everyone feeling grateful to the directors for the day's splendid enjoyment. Dr. F. F. MacCabe, the chairman of the company, unfortunately a passenger by the Irish mail-

steamer *Munster* in collision on Friday night, was, to the great disappointment of Mr. Hall and the party, unavoidably prevented from being present, owing to the several hours' delay which made it impossible for him to get to Felixstowe in time.

Last Saturday, June 27, 450 employés of Messrs. Allen & Hanburys (Limited) at Bethnal Green and Ware had a most enjoyable day on the occasion of the annual cricket-match and sports at Amwell. A special train conveyed the London contingent from Liverpool Street and Bethnal Green, and the place of pleasure was reached shortly after twelve o'clock. Business was commenced at once, the cricket-match ending in a win for the Londoners by thirty runs. The sports went off exceedingly well; the handicaps were very equal, and made very close races. The ladies had a look in, several races being provided for them. Their throwing of the cricket-ball was really excellent. We may state that Mr. W. R. Dodd acted as referee in the sports, assisted by Mr. R. J. Hanbury; Mr. F. C. Hanbury assisted the committee in arranging the starting of the races; and Mr. Byron was handicapper. After the sports a tug-of-war was arranged between the London and Ware branches, the latter being successful. At the end of day a very good tea was served in the Drill Hall, after which the prizes were presented by Mrs. W. Ralph Dodd. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. F. J. Hanbury, the chair at the closing proceedings was taken by Mr. W. R. Dodd, who was supported by Messrs. W. Milton, Solomon, P. C. Faithful, J. P. Graves, and other representatives of the firm. Mrs. Dodd was assisted in presenting the prizes by Miss Bischoff (London), Miss Brown and Miss Wyatt (Ware). The committee who made the arrangements are to be congratulated on the success of the outing, which helped to demonstrate how harmonious are the relations of those who follow the ancient Plough.

Upwards of fifty of the senior members of the staff of Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, Charlotte Street, E.C., went to Eastbourne, on June 27, for the annual outing. Leaving London soon after eight o'clock, the morning was spent in boating and yacht-trips. At one o'clock an excellent dinner was served at the Pier Hotel, the chair being taken by Mr. E. J. Millard, F.C.S. The toast of "The Firm" was proposed by Mr. F. Hicks, and in reply the Chairman referred to the rapid progress made in their business of recent years, and especially in the export-department, where their exportation of medicinal tinctures in bond had reached upwards of 1,000 gals. per month. A telegram of good wishes from Mr. John C. Hewlett, F.C.S., was read and his health was drunk with enthusiasm, accompanied by musical honours. A special toast was proposed in honour of Mr. Astell J. Willson, the firm's South African representative, who attended former outings when town-traveller and had voluntarily sent a handsome donation towards the present occasion. In the afternoon the majority visited Hurstmonceaux Castle, where an exciting incident occurred that was not on the programme. Just as the party arrived it was found that the well-known cottage at the entrance was in danger of being burnt down, an outbuilding being on fire. By the exertions of the staff this was extinguished, much to the relief of the occupants of the cottage, who were profuse in their thanks. The return-journey to London was safely effected. The weather throughout was delightful. All the arrangements were perfectly carried out by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Gillard, and the outing was voted one of the most successful and enjoyable.

## Recent Wills.

LEWIS.—The will of the late Mr. Wm. Lewis, chemical-manufacturer, of Gorseinon, Glamorgan, has been proved at 29,673l. 17s. 5d. gross. He bequeaths his interest in the business to his three sons.

LOVEROCK.—The will of the late Mr. Henry Loverock, J.P., chemist and druggist, of 1 Enville Street, Stourbridge, who died on May 9, has been proved at 10,165l. gross, the net personalty amounting to 8,025l.





**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

#### Medicine Stamp-duty.

SIR,—Whilst in agreement with Mr. Weddell that the uncertainty in regard to liability and somewhat arbitrary interpretation of the Medicine-stamp Act has caused inconvenience and annoyance in the past, I should nevertheless regard the "repeal of the Act" as one of the greatest disasters that could happen to the drug-trade. Very scant reflection will demonstrate the practical outcome of repeal. The only existing limitation on absolutely free trade in drugs and medicines is embodied in the Pharmacy Act and the Medicine-stamp Act; the restrictive operation of the Pharmacy Act is not extensive, only covering the sale of a few scheduled poisons. I doubt if the ordinary retail chemist and druggist realises sufficient profit from the sale of scheduled poisons to pay his yearly gas account. The restrictive operation of the Medicine-stamp Act is relatively of greater value, as its influence covers a wide area. I do not think Mr. Weddell would care to see every huckster in the Kingdom retailing B.P. preparations, with descriptive and recommendatory labels, as well as a host of commodities at present in various ways covered by the Stamp Act.

The present difficulty has to be faced, and so far practical suggestions are not in evidence; the fact that the dilemma has been evolved by the aggressive action of the Chemists' Defence Association does not assist in solving the problem. If the Pharmaceutical Council could succeed in getting the licence restricted to registered chemists, it would be the best thing ever done for the trade, and certain advantages would also accrue to the Revenue. The number of licensed dealers is about 35,000, the number of chemists and druggists in business probably 9,000 to 10,000; increasing the annual licence to 20s. or 40s., and drawing the line somewhat tighter in respect of dutiable articles, would more than meet any loss of revenue.

The difficulty of knowing what to stamp has been very much exaggerated. The Board have always supplied information to anyone who would take the trouble to ask, and if, as sometimes has been the case, a label has been marked "Liable" at one time and at another "Not liable," it should be remembered the labels do not always come before the same individual, and on the border line discrimination is difficult. Be that as it may, in all cases in my experience the Board have never exacted a penalty when one could satisfy them there had been a conflict of official opinion.

The broad distinctions in regard to the wording of labels should be known to everyone, yet so many in the trade will deliberately invade the borderland. Again, there are a vast number of chemists who never look at a trade journal, and therefore are not posted up in the laws and regulations applicable to their business. It is a matter of history that I have consistently advocated diplomatic dealing with the Board of Inland Revenue; the wisdom of this course recent events amply justify. It remains to be seen whether diplomatic representation by the official heads of pharmacy may not extricate us from the disastrous position in which the unfortunate action of the Chemists' Defence Association has placed the drug-trade.

285 Brockley Road, June 27.

LEO ATKINSON

SIR,—With Mr. George Weddell, I quite agree that the easiest way out of the difficulty would be to abolish the patent-medicine stamp entirely, but, unfortunately, we have to deal with the question as it is. Personally, the duty-trouble is a secondary consideration, but I do most emphatically protest against the manner in which the duty is levied and collected, and most especially against the detective system adopted to pounce on labels which may or may not, according to the decision of the Revenue, be liable to stamp-

duty. With something like about four thousand drugs, chemicals, and preparations to keep his eye on, know all the properties of, and be able to give a full explanation of as to the virtues or otherwise to a customer at a moment's notice, a chemist should not be called upon to give his time and attention to the requirements of the stamp-duty, the details of which it seems impossible to master, and the snares it contains impossible to avoid.

Family medicines, as sold by chemists generally, with a full explanatory label (much more for the guidance and benefit of the public than as a means of advertising his wares), are in a totally different category from those nostrums which are launched on the market by great capitalists, with the avowed intention of money-making, and whose preparations must yield the bulk of the revenue derived from the duty. As only a small proportion of the duty can be raised from those few preparations sold by chemists retail over the counter, I would suggest, instead of the duty as now levied, that chemists should pay a special licence-fee, issued only to chemists who have served a regular apprenticeship and in business on their own account, of 2*l.* or 3*l.* per annum, or an amount to be determined, which should give them absolute freedom with regard to the wording of labels used only in their own shops. This licence should not be granted to companies, neither should it apply to wholesale dealings by chemists, even in the articles which may be sold duty-free in their own shops. This is a concession, unless the duty is abolished, which should be granted simply for the convenience and safety of the great mass of the poorer community, where needs and want of higher education demand that they should have full information with the ordinary family medicines in general use. I find, on reference to my stock, that I must in future stamp many articles in common use which have hitherto been sold unstamped, or destroy about 20% to 30% worth of labels. This is a serious matter to an ordinary retail chemist, and the manner in which this new decision has been launched upon us is certainly not an English method of dealing with revenue. It is fortunately not often a body of tradesmen are called upon to pay a duty levied in a fresh form or destroy 70,000% of labels, for this is what it amounts to at the very least; and before the decision is verified and carried out I think the Pharmaceutical Council should approach the authorities, and see if an alternative measure, either on the lines I have mentioned or something better, cannot be suggested. In support of my idea I would say that—(1) the licence could be collected at same time as P.M. licence; (2) it would relieve chemists generally from espionage and a great worry; and, above all, (3) chemists would know exactly what is required of them. Faithfully yours,

Aylesbury, June 29.

WALTER SURFLEET.

SIR,—Noting the correspondence in the *C. & D. re* labels and liability to stamp-duty, I should like to draw attention to one or two things that may have been overlooked or misunderstood, as the chemists' exemption clause of the Medicine-stamp Act has been all these years till Mr. Glyn-Jones's interpretation of it; I refer to the false rendering of the terms "liver-pills," "neuralgia-mixture," "corn-and-wart paint," &c., being liable. The Act plainly states "for the prevention, cure, or relief of any disorder or complaint incident to or in any wise affecting the human body," &c.; also that the maker or vendor must have occult secret or art, or claim exclusive right or title to making the same, and, further, the medicines should be "held out or recommended to the public by the makers, vendors, or proprietors thereof as nostrums or proprietary medicines, specifics, or as beneficial to the prevention, cure, or relief of any distemper." Now calling a thing by the name of an organ of the body—*e.g.*, "liver-pills," "head-and-stomach pills," "eye-ointment," "cooling and fever powders"—does not indicate any complaint or disorder or malady, nor is "wind and water" a disorder either. "Liver-complaint pills" or "purifying stomach pills" may be, and every wholesale pill-manufacturer makes the pills in question, and therefore there cannot be any secret therein, unless they are sold by vendor as a secret preparation. I have been in the trade twenty years, and have frequently seen labels marked "Not liable" by the Inland Revenue authorities. Why are they considered liable now? I believe they will not be if the matter is threshed out. Let a label defence fund be formed to carry any cases before the highest



tribunal in the land before giving in to this extortion. The fund should have a subscription of 5s. or 10s., and all fines and expenses paid on behalf of any subscriber only. There is ample time before the end of September to get such an organisation in working order, and if in the end these articles have to be renamed, it will give a chance to use up existing stocks of labels (a valuable item) and train the public into asking for the same pills under another name, such as pil. cochiae, digestive pills; neuralgia-mixture can be called "neuro-mixture," or other name in the future if necessary. A verbal recommendation only, I believe, does not incur liability. If you will publish this, it may meet the eye of someone influential enough to take this idea up.

Yours faithfully,

LAURENCIO. (80/32)

SIR,—Before the "New Decision" is quite condemned of all, would it not be worth while to first consider three other classes of retailers besides the chemists themselves. (1) The unqualified druggist, being unqualified, will not be able to avail himself of the "known-and-approved" exemption. How will he do for his "cough-mixture," "toothache-essence," "tic-pills," &c.? If the "New Decision" places him at a disadvantage, how will that affect his qualified opponent? (2) The country grocer, who has often a larger drug-business than a qualified chemist. Will it be to his advantage? If not, then it must help his qualified neighbour, who often has to fight hard against the travelling grocer. (3) The small shopkeeper or huckster, common in villages, commoner still in by-streets of large manufacturing towns. Let a chemist in such a district count the number of hucksters who sell medicines located within a mile of his shop. He may say, "Oh, but when people want anything worth having they will go to the chemist." I fear they are mostly too lazy. Will the "New Decision" benefit these hucksters? If not, it must help the chemist. Many hucksters even do a good little drug business. These three classes of opponents draw away a large portion of the more profitable part of our business. The "New Decision" will not be good for chemists who supply the above, but the trade they do is a fleabite compared with the increasing bulk done by unqualified wholesalers. There are rural districts that used to support a qualified chemist. Why is it they do not do so now? Not on account of the agricultural depression, for other traders are comfortable enough. Perhaps if the wings of grocers and hucksters were trimmed a little there might be more openings for qualified chemists of small capital; an alternative to selling oneself to the company. If the Revenue people carry out the "New Decision" in their usual half-hearted, fitful style, then it will indeed be hard on chemists, but if the matter be pushed in a rigorous manner, then, perhaps, what expense and annoyance chemists are put to may be largely counterbalanced by a heavier till. Whether the "New Decision" will be any use in keeping down the drug-vendors complained of is for others to decide, but it appears to me to be a side of the matter that deserves inquiry.

Yours faithfully,

June 26.

GEO. CARTER.

SIR,—It is to be hoped some concerted action will be taken by the chemists throughout the country against the prospective intention of the Inland Revenue. The Pharmaceutical Council is the body to whom, I think, we ought to look at this juncture to formulate a plan of action which would secure the approval and the signature, if needs be, of the united body of chemists and druggists. It will, I think, be new to many chemists to know that there is a law which can compel them when selling cough-mixture, stomach-pills, &c., either to declare the formula or to put on a stamp. This provision is now to be enforced. For obvious reasons we shall not care to disclose formula. It will then mean an imperfect label or no label, or we shall become a tribe of patent-medicine vendors. It will prove a blow to all chemists, particularly those in poor districts where small sales are the order of the day. We can well understand having to stamp an article for which we claim proprietary rights, curing this and that, &c., but not to be able to sell a simple cough-mixture, &c., for which we make no such claim, without conforming to one of the above restrictions, is an encroachment on our liberty, an

invasion on our rights which ought not to be tolerated. If it is the law, why has it been unenforced? Is fifty years practice in business to count for nothing, to be abruptly terminated, and a revolution in the trade to be caused by the caprice of Somerset House? Then the extension of time (September 30) is no time at all. Many chemists hold big stocks of labels, and are these to be burnt? The inducements to enter the trade are little enough, and if this innovation is to mark a new epoch in its history it will prove the most retrograde step with which it has ever been associated, and whatever attractions it may have had will be reduced to vanishing point. It is a most outrageous invasion upon our rights and privileges, and how such an unjust law ever became part of our statute-book is incomprehensible. It is a distinct anachronism, and as such should be kept in limbo or repealed.

Yours, &c.,

A SURPRISED CHEMIST. (81/27.)

*\*\* Other letters on this subject are in type.*

#### Mr. Thomas Maben and the Preliminary Examination.

SIR,—I am surprised to see in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of last week a letter from Mr. Maben in connection with his motion on this subject at the last meeting of the Executive. He writes as though he had a grievance. He says:

The Chairman ruled it out of order for any discussion to take place on the previous question, and also that the mover of the original motion was not entitled to reply, a method of burking discussion in which fortunately is seldom resorted to.

I am afraid I do not understand Mr. Maben. I was not asked for a ruling, and I did not give one. I merely conducted the business according to customary procedure. Mr. Maben has been chairman, I believe, of a public body, and ought to know this. After the "previous questions" had been moved and seconded, I said that as discussion was not permissible we should now take a vote. This we did. No one questioned the correctness of the procedure, not even Mr. Maben. He has apparently "worked himself up" since the meeting, and unless he wanted to make this an excuse for having a fling at Mr. Gilmour's "glaring inaccuracy" I cannot see why he should reopen the subject.

I take leave to quote the following for information from "The Chairman and Speaker":

Of the previous question.

A motion to this effect is resorted to in order to set aside a motion without either amendment, postponement, negation, or further discussion thereon. Its nature is this: A motion being made and seconded, is to be put to the vote if no person rise to oppose it. . . . No person may be willing to place himself in the position of an opponent to such a proposition, for it may affirm a series of undeniable truths but lead to no practical result; and it is for results that men meet in debate. . . . Such a motion is before a meeting, and it is, in the apprehension of a member of the meeting, liable to some of the objections above stated, and he is desirous of setting it aside, not only without a vote being taken upon it, but without any further waste of time in the discussion of it. Such member may then with propriety state some of his objections to it, and move "the previous question" thereon; which motion, being seconded, the chairman ought, without further discussion, to put to the meeting.

That was exactly the method by which I conducted this part of the business of the meeting. Had I followed any other I should not have done my duty as chairman in safeguarding the time of business men. In possession of more enlightened information, I hope Mr. Maben will see his way to retract the part of his letter referring to myself, and tender an apology for his unjustifiable remarks, made, no doubt, under a misapprehension of the true circumstances.

Yours truly,

PETER BOA,

Chairman of said Meeting.

119 George Street, Edinburgh, June 30.

#### Information Wanted.

79/21. Makers of Dr. Zimmermann's teething-necklaces.

77/40. Who are the actual makers of screw-capped pomades? Subscriber, who uses large quantities, wishes to buy direct from Continent.



## Coming Events.

Thursday, July 9.

*Hartlepool Chemists' Association*, Cleveland Hotel, Hartlepool, at 8.30 P.M. To discuss the advisability of joining the Federation, and the label question.

THE Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Sunderland Chemists' Association will hold their joint picnic at Alnwick on Wednesday, July 15.

THE Midland Pharmaceutical Association is having an excursion on Tuesday, July 14, to which ladies are invited as well as gentleman. For particulars, apply to Mr. Radford, the Secretary.

## PROFESSOR HART, OF LAFAYETTE COLLEGE.

THE name stands at present for American hospitality extended to British chemical technologists. The New York Section of the Society of Chemical Industry has entrusted Professor Hart to convey to the members of the Society an invitation to meet in the United States next year. He was in London for a few days this week, and at short notice a score of the leading members of the Society invited him to dine with them in the Prince's Restaurant, Piccadilly, on Wednesday evening. Dr. J. W. Swan presided, and Mr. Walter F. Reid was in the vice-chair. To Dr. Swan's right were Professor Hart, Mr. Samuel Hall, Mr. Newlands, Mr. Richard Hart, Dr. Kellner, Dr. Lewkowitsch, Dr. Edward Divers, F.R.S., Dr. Hodgkinson, Mr. Watson Smith, and Mr. Ling. On the left were Mr. T. Tyrer, Dr. Power, Mr. MacEwan, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Humphrey, Mr. Hemingway, Mr. Want, Dr. Leonard Thorne, and Mr. Grant Hooper. After dinner "The King" was toasted at the Chairman's request; and Mr. Tyrer gave "The President of the United States." In giving the health of the guest of the evening, Dr. Swan made a charming speech, commending the close association now existing between American and British chemists; and, in his reply, Professor Hart gave an outline of the entertainments which the New York Section have so far arranged for the meeting in September, 1904. After the formal business in New York the visitors will be taken for a trip to St. Louis and back, on the outward journey stopping at Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, and Pittsburgh, entertainments being provided at each place, and returning they will take the New York Central track so as to stop at Buffalo, and so on to Niagara Falls and Boston. The visitors will be guests most of the time, and Professor Hart estimated that the whole expense for any one member on this side going to the meeting (including the steamer-ticket) should not exceed 50% for the five weeks. He was called upon to speak again when Mr. Reid proposed "Prosperity to the New York Section," and he then mentioned that ladies would be well looked after. Dr. Swan's health was toasted before he left for another engagement, and, with Mr. Hall in the chair, Dr. Power and Mr. Cresswell (who had organised the dinner) were called upon to speak. This gave Mr. Cresswell the opportunity of reading feeling letters in respect to Professor Hart from Dr. T. E. Thorpe, Professor Dewar, Sir Henry Roscoe, Sir William Ramsay, Dr. Tilden, and others who had prior engagements.

**ILFORD (LIMITED).**—The shareholders of this company have appointed a committee to consider its position, and proposals submitted to them.

**HUGH MOORE & ALEXANDERS (LIMITED), DUBLIN.**—The sixth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the above company, wholesale druggists and oil-merchants, Dublin, was held at the Linen Hall, Dublin, on June 24. The Chairman (Mr. Wm. J. McNeight) said the volume of business during the year showed a substantial increase, but the profits on some parts had not been so good. Dividends at the rate of 5 per cent. on the preference shares for six months, and 4 per cent. on the ordinary shares for twelve months were declared.

## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: July 2.

THE half-yearly stocktaking operations and the hot weather have interfered with business this week, the demand for drugs and chemicals being mostly limited to current requirements. Consequently changes have been few, shellac being the only article exhibiting any life, and a further advance has been established. Santonin is again dearer, and prices are now extremely high. Cocaine keeps very firm, with values tending upwards. Quinine has been dull of sale throughout, and spot prices are tending easier. Opium is also very quiet here, although Smyrna reports a more active market this week. In chemicals, carbonate of ammonia is fractionally dearer, bleaching-powder continues very dull and weak, caustic soda meets with a fair inquiry, and soda ash is firmly held. The following are the principal changes of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Ammon. carb. Santonin Shellac	Cascara sagrada Galls (Pers.) Opium Sarsaparilla (Mexican)	Ergot Pepper, white Quinine (sec. hands)	Insect-flowers Linseed

ACID, TARTARIC, is firm, at 1s. 1½d. for foreign and 1s. 1½d. for English.

ALCOHOL.—The Finance Act has not yet been sanctioned by the King, so that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not yet removed the additional duty of 1d. per proof gallon on imported spirit, although the repeal of the corn duty came into operation on July 1.

ALOES.—An arrival of 130 boxes Curaçao *via* New York has taken place. Good pale liver continues scarce, however, the bulk of the quality offered being medium only.

AMMONIUM CARBONATE has advanced ½d. per lb., dealers quoting on the basis of 3½d. per lb. for 4 cwt. casks.

ARSENIC.—Best white English powder is quoted 13s. 10s. per cwt. spot, with Australian offering at rather below this figure.

BUCHU.—Further small sales have been made, including yellowish and green round leaf at 10½d. to 10½d. per lb.

CALABAR BEANS.—In Liverpool 10 bags have been sold at 6d. per lb. ex quay at auction.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—The spot price is unchanged at 50s. to 60s., according to quality; but for shipment there has been a good inquiry, holders quoting 37s. 6d. to 40s., c.i.f.

CHAMOMILES.—Advices from Hungary state that the cold weather which set in in April has caused considerable damage to the chamomile-plant, so that the production may be decreased. Consequently higher prices are expected this year.

COLOCYNTH.—According to the British Vice-Consul at Almeria the exports from that port during 1902 amounted to 11 cases.



CINCHONA.—The N. V. Nederlandsche Veem at Amsterdam reports the shipments from Java to Europe as follows:

## June.

Year.	Amst. lbs.	Year.	Amst. lbs.
1903 ...	1,219,000	1897 ...	824,000
1902 ...	1,200,000	1896 ...	716,000
1901 ...	1,048,000	1895 ...	889,000
1900 ...	866,000	1894 ...	455,000
1899 ...	1,126,000	1893 ...	816,000
1898 ...	1,033,000		

## January-June.

Year.	Amst. lbs.	Year.	Amst. lbs.
1903 ...	5,785,000	1897 ...	3,334,000
1902 ...	5,399,000	1896 ...	3,976,000
1901 ...	5,217,000	1895 ...	3,768,700
1900 ...	4,118,000	1894 ...	3,743,000
1899 ...	5,090,800	1893 ...	4,060,000
1898 ...	4,917,000		

CREAM OF TARTAR is firmly held, B.P.-quality powder offering at 90s. to 91s., 95 per cent. powder 88s., and first white French crystals 86s. to 87s. per cwt.

DAMIANA is offered at 4½d. per lb., c.i.f.

DRAGON'S BLOOD.—The balance of the parcel of *Reed* which was bought in last week was sold after the auction at 9½. Really fine dragon's blood is scarce, the bulk of the recent arrivals of block being false packed, and importers being averse to having it picked over and selected here owing to the expense, it remains less saleable.

ERGOT.—Prices on the spot are rather easier than those quoted last week, Russian having sold at 1s. per lb., up to 1s. 1½d. being quoted.

GALLS.—Blue Persian are rather firmer, 51s. having been paid on the spot, but green and white are neglected.

GAMBOGE.—Since the auctions there has been a good demand, and the catalogues have been cleared. For good Siam pipe 13½. to 13½. 15s. has been paid, and bold rough ricey has been sold at 10½. 10s. per cwt. Some 20 cases are being shipped to the United States.

GLYCERIN.—A German advice states that the glycerin-market is unusually firm, and manufacturers are disinclined to make concessions, especially as the firm tendency of crude glycerin renders a rise in price justifiable. Consequently any alteration will be doubtless more towards a higher than a lower price.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—From Trieste, under date of June 15, a flat market is reported. Although the crop has been satisfactory, owners and speculators in Dalmatia are naturally endeavouring to sustain prices, but there are some weak holders who are forced to sell. Most of the arrivals in Trieste consist of half-closed flowers, which are being sold at the parity of from 68s. to 80s., while closed have fetched from 88s. to 98s. These goods are still too fresh to be exported, but they will probably be pressed about the middle of July. The statistics for the last three years are as follows:

	Season 1902-03	Season 1901-02	Season 1900-01
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Stock on June 1 (beginning of new season) ...	2,696	2,522	2,916
Imports from June to May 31 ...	9,370	9,232	10,464
Sales from June to May 31 ...	8,346	9,058	10,858
Stock on June 1 ...	3,720	2,696	2,522

There has been a good inquiry on the London market, prices ranging from 90s. to 95s. for good closed flowers, down to 58s. for open.

IPECACUANHA.—An important arrival of 61 packages Johore root has taken place per *Shanghai* from Singapore, and will probably be offered next week. Rio is quiet and obtainable at last week's prices. Cartagena, however, is scarce, nothing now being obtainable at the lower prices paid in auction. The total deliveries for the month of June amounted to 27 packages Rio and 7 packages

Cartagena. The deliveries of Rio at the corresponding period of 1902, 1901, and 1900 were 33, 41, and 55 packages respectively.

KOLA.—A small parcel of dried West African has been sold in Liverpool at 3d. per lb. ex quay. Here the drug continues as scarce as ever.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—Good cut decorticated liquorice-root remains very scarce and practically unobtainable from abroad.

MENTHOL is firm at 25s. for Kobayashi and 24s. 6½. for Yazawa. Offers at below these prices have been declined.

MORPHINE.—Rather more demand has been shown during the past day or two, and makers are firm at unchanged prices.

OIL, CASTOR, is dull of sale at from 2d. to 2½d. per lb., spot, for Calcutta seconds.

OIL, CITRONELLA.—Ordinary Ceylon is steady at from 9½d. to 10½d. per lb., spot.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on June 27 that the final report of the Finmarken fishing has not yet appeared, but no alteration in the output is to be noted however. The market for finest non-congealing cod-liver oil is very quiet at 480s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports from that port since the beginning of the season amount to 1,227 barrels, against 4,463½ barrels at the corresponding date of last year. Mail advices from New York, dated June 17, state that the outlook for the Newfoundland catch is said to be discouraging, as the indications thus far are that the livers are very lean. An advice from Bergen, dated June 24, quotes steam-refined non-freezing cod-liver oil at 450s. to 460s. per barrel, f. r. Hull without engagement. The London market is seasonably quiet, at from 490s. to 500s. per barrel, a little 1902 oil being offered at the lower figure.

OIL, GERANIUM.—Bourbon oil keeps very firm on the other side at high prices, while here the tone is quiet.

OIL, LEMONGRASS, is offered at from 6½d. to 7d. per oz. on the spot.

OIL, LIME.—Aided by the more genial weather, the demand for West Indian distilled is well maintained on the basis of 1s. 9d. for good.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—The market for Japanese dementholised oil is firm, with buyers at 7s. 9d., but no sellers under 8s., spot. There are no offers for forward delivery at the moment. American GHG has maintained the firmer tone of last week, sellers asking 12s. 6d. to 12s. 9d., spot, and bids of slightly less have been refused.

OPIUM.—The market has been quiet up to Wednesday, when on news coming to hand of the activity in Smyrna, some sixty cases changed hands, at from 9s. to 9s. 3d. per lb. for Smyrna druggists. In Persian opium further small sales have taken place at late rates, and to-day there is more inquiry for the drug generally.

SMYRNA, June 19.—The market continues quiet, sales for the week amounting to 5 cases new current talequale at 8s. per lb. for account of speculators, and 2 cases old selected material for the Continent at 8s. 5d. Rain has fallen this week over some parts of the interior, but not in sufficient quantity to cause much damage, but if it continues we may have a repetition of complaints, which will bring forward speculators and higher prices. Last week the estimate of the Salonica crop was 1,000 cases; but now it is made out to be only 800 cases. This deficit has been caused by heavy rains, which washes away the gum after incision. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 89 cases, against 154 cases at the same time last year. Another correspondent, writing on June 19, states that on account of the abundant rains which have fallen since the beginning of the month the estimate in the crop has now been reduced to a maximum of 3,500 cases, including Salonica and Constantinople. The persistent inclement weather has brought about this change.

PHOSPHORUS.—An agreement having been arrived at between the German and British manufacturers the prices were recently raised about 40 per cent., and it is reported that the Convention is desirous of shortly raising prices further.

QUININE is a very dull market, a few small sales being reported during the week at 10½d. per oz. for spot, but at the close there are sellers at 10d.



ROSE-LEAVES are firm, at from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f.

SANTONIN.—The advancing prices of wormseed, which is practically under the control of a Russian monopoly, led to an advance in santonin of 9d. per lb. on 2-cwt. lots and over, which are now quoted 22s. 9d. per lb. net, while 28 lbs. and less have advanced 1s. per lb. to 24s.

SARSAPARILLA.—Genuine grey Jamaica is scarce, at from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb., there having been no arrivals this week, and for the parcel of Honduras offered last week in auction 1s. 4d. has since been paid; Mexican is quoted 4½d., c.i.f. terms. About 12 bales red native Jamaica have arrived, but no grey.

SCAMMONY-ROOT.—There is a fair quantity on offer, for which 27s. 6d. is wanted.

SHELLAC.—Since our last report we have had another active week for TN in all positions and further substantial advances in value have been secured, prices on the spot for standard quality having advanced quite 5s. per cwt. During the week from 132s. to 137s. has been paid for fair TN orange, cash terms, several hundred cases having changed hands. For arrival and delivery a large business has also been concluded, at daily advancing prices. To-day the market is strong, 142s. having been paid for August delivery.

The Calcutta shipments during June were 8,600 cwt. to the U.K. (5,700 in 1902), 5,200 cwt. to U.S.A. (12,300 in 1902), and 2,700 cwt. to the Continent (3,200 in 1902). The total shipments from November 1, 1902, to June 30, 1903, have been 158,700 cwt., compared with 113,600 in the similar period of 1901-2, 170,500 in 1900-1, and 188,600 cwt. in 1899-1900. The London warehouse statement for June is as follows in cwt.:

	Landed	Delivered	Stock	
			1903	1902
Orange ...	2,433	4,568	11,052	23,487
Garnet ...	1,102	820	7,015	3,539
Button ...	1,961	1,369	4,003	4,547
Chests ...	5,496	6,757	22,070	31,573

SOY is quoted 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4d. per gallon.

SPICES.—At auction spices generally met with a quiet demand. Jamaica *Ginger* was in large supply, and mostly bought in at full prices, only 30 barrels and 5 bags selling out of 1,077 offered, including medium dullish to washed 43s. to 46s. 6d. Cochin sold (315 barrels) "without reserve" at 30s. to 31s. 6d. for rough Dends, rough tips 34s., and cut tips 40s. Selected was bought in at 85s.; good medium cut 65s.; and unsorted native at 55s. *Pimento* sold at 2½d. *Chillies* were quiet, being bought in at 27s. for fair bright long, mostly off stalk. *Japan cassia* sold at 17s. All the offering of *Black Pepper* were bought in. *White Pepper* was ¼d. lower, 500 bags Singapore selling without reserve at 9d. for Rhio, fair to good Singapore 9½d. to 9¾d. Penang partly sold, without reserve, at 8¼d. to 9d. for fair. Privately black Singapore is quoted 6½d., spot, but August-October is firmer, with buyers on Wednesday at 6¾d. *Cinnamon-bark* sold, without reserve (200 bags), at ¼d. to ¾d. per lb. for thick. *Cloves* were not offered, and privately the market has been inactive, with sellers of June delivery at 4¼d. per lb.

STRYCHNINE.—The cause of the recent advance in Germany is said to be due to the extraordinary large demand for strychnine for destroying mice, which have overrun many districts this year.

TURMERIC.—Good Rajapore finger is offered at 13s. on the spot, and Cochin finger is still quoted 9s., and Bengal 13s.

VANILLA.—There was a small sale of vanilla on Wednesday, when out of 450 odd tins offered about 260 tins sold. Medium and long lengths were mostly withdrawn and bought in, while ordinary foxy and pickings sold at full prices to 6d. dearer.

The following prices were paid: *Seychelles*, 7 to 8 inches, 11s. 6d.; 6½ to 8 inches, 9s. 6d.; 5½ to 7 inches, 7s. 9d. to 8s. 3d.; 3 to 6½ inches, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; good split, 4 to 7½ inches, 5s. to 7s. 6d.; common and foxy, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 3d. *Mauritius*, fair to good, 9 to 9½ inches, 24s.; 7½ to 8 inches, 14s. to 16s. 6d.; 7 to 7½ inches, 13s.; 6 to 6½ inches, 8s. 6d. to 11s.; 4 to 6 inches,

7s. 9d. to 8s. 3d.; 3 to 6½ inches, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; good split, 7 to 8½ inches, 9s. to 11s. 6d.; 6 to 7 inches, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 3d.; 4 to 6 inches, 6s. 6d. to 7s. *Ceylon*, 5½ to 7 inches, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 3d.; 4 to 6 inches, 3s. to 4s. 6d. per lb.

WAX, BEES'.—The exports from Porto Alegre (Brazil) during 1902 amounted to 98 tons, of which 73 tons went to Hamburg and 25 tons to Lüneberg.

WAX, JAPANESE.—The market remains easy on the spot at 65s., but probably this figure would be shaded on a counter-bid. For June-July shipment an offer of 57s., c.i.f., might lead to business.

## Heavy Chemicals.

There is little of special importance to be reported regarding the condition of the heavy-chemical market, as the general tone is practically the same as that referred to in recent reports. A quietly steady business is being done, and deliveries against existing contracts are fairly well up to the average. New business is not so extensive or important as might be wished for, but this is partly explained at any rate by the fact that contracts were more numerous this year than usual. Values for both main and miscellaneous products are fairly well maintained at recent figures.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder and caustic soda move steadily, and are being well sold forward. Soda crystals and ammonia alkali are in particularly good request, all things considered. Saltcake does not alter from late quiet tone. Chlorates of potash and soda are in rather better demand, and the same remark applies to yellow prussiates.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA, although rather quiet, cannot be said to be moving badly. Quotations are practically unchanged. Beekton, 12l. 17s. 6d.; Beekton terms, 12l. 15s.; London, 12l. 15s. to 12l. 17s. 6d.; Leith, 12l. 17s. 6d.; Hull, 12l. 10s. to 12l. 11s. 3d.

BARIUM PRODUCTS.—In this market there is, if anything, a rather better demand and, generally speaking, is fairly good. Prices show no fluctuation. Chloride of barium, ordinary refined crystals, in brisk request at 6l. to 6l. 10s. per ton in large casks ex stock; in bags 5s. per ton less. Blanc Fixe, pure precipitated sulphate of barium in paste form, is in more regular demand and steady at 5l. 15s. to 6l. 5s. per ton in usual casks. Mineral sulphate of barytes, ground, continues to move well at 40s. to 100s. per ton in accordance with quality, quantity, and package. Sulphide of barium, crude calcined 70 to 75 per cent., 4l. to 4l. 15s. per ton in 6-7-cwt. casks. Hydrate of baryta is rather quieter, but prices show no decline from 13l. 10s. to 14l. per ton in 6-7-cwt. casks. Nitrate of baryta in good request, and prices tend towards advancement. Crystals 17l. to 18l. per ton in casks, and powdered 17l. 5s. to 18l. 5s. per ton.

## German Drug-market.

Hamburg, June 30.

The weather is very hot and business is quiet on the drug-market, few alterations being reported in values last week.

AGAR-AGAR remains firm, at 325m. per 100 kilos.

ALOE, CAPE, is firmer, at from 102m. to 103m. per 100 kilos.

ANTIMONY is steady, at 21½m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR is very firm, refined in first hands being quoted 435m. and second hands at 430m. per 100 kilos.

CASCARA SAGRADA is tending firmer on the spot, at 105m., and for forward delivery 85m. per 100 kilos. is asked.

CONDURANGO shows a firmer tone, at 75m. to 80m. per 100 kilos.

COCAINE.—Hydrochloride continues very firm and strong, at 580m. per kilo.

ELEMI is lower, white on the spot being quoted 160m. per 100 kilos.

MYRRH is firm, at 157½m. to 160m. per 100 kilos.

JALAP is quiet, at 100m. per 100 kilos.

IPACACUANHA is unchanged, at 12½m. to 13m. for Rio, and 9½m. to 10m. for Cartagena.

KOLA is steady, at 80m. to 95m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium is firmer, being quoted 480m. per 100 kilos.

QUININE is dull of sale, at 33m. per kilo.

QUILLAIA-BARK is very firm, at 44½m. per 100 kilos.

SENEGA is offering at lower rates—viz., 850m. for prompt and 700m. per 100 kilos. for forward shipment.

WORMSEED is firm and scarce, at 110m. per 100 kilos.

OILS, FIXED.—Castor is very dull of sale and neglected. Cod-liver shows little business; spot is 500m. per barrel. Linseed is very dull. Rape, quiet. Chinese wood oil is quoted 52m. per 100 kilos, spot.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—Star-anise is quoted 10m. to 9½m. per kilo. Peppermint is steady, HGH at 12½m. to 13m. per lb. and Japanese at 18m. per kilo. Camphor oil is firmer on the spot, at 72m., and near at hand 65m. Cassia oil is firmer, at 6m. to 6½m. per kilo.



## American Drug-market.

New York, June 23.

The drug-market is dull, and but little business is doing outside of filling routine orders.

OPIMUM is offered in case-lots at \$3.12½ per lb., but this figure can be shaded.

QUININE.—Manufacturers have reduced quotations to 23c. in view of the outcome of the last bark-sale. Second-hands offer German at 22c. and Java at 20c.

BLOOD-ROOT is scarce, and 8c. to 9c. is now asked.

COD-LIVER OIL continues firm with exceedingly small sales. Some Newfoundland oil is offered around \$100, but dealers are hoping for lower prices when the fishing commences.

MENTHOL is obtainable at \$7.20 per lb.

SENEGAL is easier. Southern root can be bought at 75c., and Northern is down to 85c. The high prices realised this last year have encouraged diggers, and a good crop is looked for.

OIL OF PEPPERMINT is quiet at \$2.85 for bulk oil.

JAPAN WAX is neglected, and 15c. is a nominal quotation.

### Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, July 1:—The sales for the week ending Wednesday amount to 200 cases, partly for the United States and partly for speculators. The market is advancing, 8s. 10d. per lb. now being asked for good druggists' quality. Rain has much interfered with the gathering of the crop, and to this fact the advance may be ascribed.

HAMBURG, July 2:—Carnauba wax, refined camphor, cascara sagrada, condurango, and kola nuts are all firmer.

NEW YORK, July 2:—The market here is dull. Menthol is slow of sale at \$7.00 per lb. Cartagena ipecacuanha is lower at \$1.35. Senegal is easy at 65c. Mexican sarsaparilla is firmer at 7½c. Balsam tolu is neglected at 25c., and thymol is dull of sale at \$1.80 per lb., while peppermint oil remains easy at \$2.75 for bulk oil.

### Menthol-contract Disputes.

The *Japanese Weekly Chronicle* of May 15 contains the judgment delivered in the action brought by Messrs. Grösser & Co. and Messrs. E. Popp & Co., both of Kobe, against Mr. Ogawa Koji, a merchant in Fukuyama, Bingo, for breach of contract in regard to the non-delivery of menthol (see *C. & D.*, June 20, page 980). The judgment awarded damages of 7,245 yen to Messrs. Grösser only, the claim of Messrs. Popp being dismissed. Messrs. Grösser were ordered to bear one-tenth of the costs, Messrs. Popp five-tenths, and the defendant the remainder.

Another action of a similar nature was heard on May 4 in the Yokohama Court, when Messrs. Grösser & Co. brought a claim against Mr. Aranami Seijiro, of the Yazawa firm.

Counsel for plaintiffs (Mr. Sawada) stated that the defendant entered into a contract with the plaintiffs on September 20 last for the sale of twenty cases of menthol, each containing twelve cans weighing 60 lbs. net, at the rate of 9.50 yen per kin. The goods were to be delivered at the plaintiffs' godown towards the end of December last, but the date of delivery was subsequently altered to January 23 this year to suit the defendant's convenience. The defendant again entered into a contract to sell to the plaintiffs on December 20 last twenty cases of menthol, each containing twelve cans weighing 60 lbs. net, at the rate of 9 yen per kin. The goods were to be delivered by the end of that month, but the date of delivery was also afterwards altered to January 23 this year. The defendant delivered part of the menthol, but did not fulfil the contract with regard to the rest, despite several requests to do so. The plaintiffs, therefore, gave notice through a bailiff of the local court on January 27 pressing for delivery within five days, and intimating that the contract would be cancelled and the damages arising from the breach of contract claimed, if the demand was not complied with. The demand was not acceded to, hence the action. For the defence the existence of such a contract was denied, although it was admitted the defendant was carrying on the business under the firm name of the Yazawa Shokai. Plaintiffs' counsel produced two copies of the contract, a copy of the bailiff's notice, and a certified copy of the business register in support of his claim and to prove the defendant was the successor to the Yazawa Shokai. Mr. Inouye (counsel for defendant) refused to recognise the copies of the contract, but admitted the other documentary evidence. The proceedings were adjourned until June 1 to enable plaintiffs to call Mr. Yazawa Tojiro as witness to prove that all business transactions had been carried on under firm name of the Yazawa Shokai.

### Newfoundland Cod-liver Oil.

It is evident that every endeavour will be made to increase the output of Newfoundland cod-liver oil this year, judging from reports which have come to hand from the island, but even if the

season should prove an exceptionally good one it would hardly be possible for the catch to be large enough to affect the result of the shortage in Norway. The *Harbor Grace Standard* reports that Mr. Daniel Pumphrey has purchased two outfits in St. John's for the manufacture of cod-liver oil, and will operate them at Ragged Islands, Labrador. This industry is extending all over the island, and at the present rate, says our contemporary, it will not be long ere every part of the coast will have a plant, whereby the fishermen may dispose of cod liver at a price over that which they usually receive for cod oil. According to official statistics, the exports of cod-liver oil from Newfoundland during 1902 amounted in value to \$11,142, against \$12,710 in 1901. Great Britain received \$6,053, against \$4,330 in 1901; United States, \$339 worth, against \$527 in 1901; and Canada, \$4,712, against \$7,775 in 1901. In addition, cod oil valued at \$441,070 was exported last year, against \$385,329 in 1901, and seal oil valued at \$379,445, against \$424,632. The United States was the largest consumer of cod oil (\$218,528), and Great Britain the largest consumer of seal oil (\$188,503).

### American Bromides.

The American market is still unsettled, with no prospect of early improvement. Prices still show a wide range, but makers refuse to deliver goods except in small lots. The statements regarding scarcity are not generally believed, as just before the break in prices the Trust offered each maker an option on 100,000 lbs. at a very low price. Those who are holding prices down now accepted the offer and made contracts to supply at an equally low figure. Until these contracts are filled or supplies exhausted no permanent settlement can be made.

### Sicilian Lemon-crop.

The United States Consul at Messina reports from Catania that the summer lemon-crop in this consular district promises well. The fruit is of very good quality, although, owing to the dry winter, dirty in appearance. The crop is about the same as last year; the amount for export is estimated at 140,000 boxes (300 in a box).

### Florentine Orris.

Messrs. E. Sachsse & Co., of Leipzig, have issued a report on the outlook for this article, in the course of which they state that the stocks in Italy in the hands of the peasants and dealers are about 500,000 to 600,000 kilos. The demand remains quiet, although former prices are maintained. The new crop is due about the end of this month, and lasts until October. Present prospects point to a good yield, although the final result will depend on ruling values. If they should remain as low as formerly, many of the producers say they will not gather the crop. If, on the contrary, prices rise, naturally all will be gathered in, which would make the total stocks far in excess of the yearly consumption. A natural result of this will be the probable falling-off in the demand a short time after the harvest. If the production is kept within reasonable limits, it may then be possible to bring about a more healthy condition of the market. A reduction in the amount planted out took place last autumn, and if the demand from abroad is not brisk the reduction will, no doubt, be continued. At present the low prices for orris, orris powder, and concrete and liquid oil of orris remain unchanged, and will in all probability remain so for the next twelve months.

### The English Herb-crops.

Messrs. W. J. Bush & Co. (Limited) write that it is somewhat too early to prophesy as to the probable crops of Mitcham lavender, peppermint, chamomiles, &c. They fear, however, that the crops have suffered considerably from the floods of two or three weeks ago. Many fields were under water, and the excessive cold and wet has destroyed many plants. The wet weather was followed somewhat suddenly by unusual heat, which baked the surface of the heavier soils into a hard mass before the farmers had had the opportunity of applying the hoe. Crops vary very much in the different districts, according to the nature of the soil, elevation of the land, and general situation. In a few places the crops look pretty favourable, but on the whole the prospect of the Mitcham products which interest the drug and essential-oil trades looks very poor.

Messrs. J. & G. Miller, of Mitcham, write on June 29 that the medicinal and essential-oil plants in this district have just passed through a very trying period of cold wet weather. The rainfall has been enormous, being ten inches in twenty-two days, which is about the average for five months. Henbane is a very poor crop, and belladonna is much under the average. It is a little too soon yet to judge what effect the late abnormal weather will ultimately have on lavender, peppermint, chamomile, and other minor herb-crops. The lavender-flowers are coming up thin and small; the peppermint plants are now looking well, but the acreage is much under the average, especially of the two and three year old crops, which produce the largest yield of oil.



### Lagos Products.

At a recent meeting of the Society of Arts, Major J. H. Ewart read an interesting paper on Lagos, its hinterland, products, and people, in the course of which he mentioned that the staple products of the colony are palm-kernels and palm oil, which cost the native much time and labour to prepare. The price paid to the producer does not leave anything for profit, all of which goes to the middleman. For the last ten years rubber has been collected, and is much more profitable, besides being easier work than collecting oil and kernels. Consequently the latter trade has been very much neglected; there are, indeed, now thousands of acres covered with the oil-palm where nothing is collected and the fruit is allowed to rot. Among other products piassava is very plentiful, but very little of it has ever been collected in Lagos. Beni-seed, gambier, croton-seed, strophanthus, dragon's-blood, several kinds of gum, and other vegetable products are abundant in the Lagos Hinterland.

### Round the World.

IN our issue of February 28, page 340, we announced that Mr. Ernest A. Umney, pharmaceutical chemist, a director of Wright, Layman & Umney (Limited), Southwark Street, S.E., had gone on a health-trip round the world. This week a *C. & D.* man shook hands with him, bronzed and well, amid the clatter and clang of drug-grinding and soap-making at Park Street, S.E. Mr. Umney has returned, restored to health, and full of delight with his trip.

"I should like to have another three months," he said, smiling, "especially in Japan. It is a most interesting country, and there are some things there," he added significantly, "that, from a business point of view, I should like to probe to the bottom."

Our envoy suggested "iodine" as innocently as he could; but Mr. Umney has inherited the wisdom of his race, and would not be drawn.

"Did you have any pharmaceutical experiences, Mr. Umney?" was the next question.

"No," was the reply. "I avoided 'shop' as much as possible; you see, I was out for my health. I looked in at a few places of business here and there, of course, and the thing that struck me most was the fact that wherever I went I found THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST."

The *C. & D.*-ite looked as modest as the circumstances should permit.

"Now, I'm not saying that because you are here; but it rather staggered me one day in Singapore—or Shanghai, was it?—where the manager of a large drug-house said, after greeting me, 'Oh, I knew you were coming!' 'Who told you?' said I. 'The *C. & D.*, of course,' said he. And so I found it wherever I went."

Further conversation elicited the information that Mr. Umney sailed on February 20 in the P. and O. steamer *China*, through the Bay of Biscay, past the Castle of Cintra and the mouth of the Tagus to Gibraltar, where he arrived on Shrove Tuesday. There the immense amount of money

being spent on the fortifications impressed him particularly, but time was short, and the vessel proceeded to Marseilles, where a large number of passengers (who had "funked" the Bay of Biscay) joined her. Passing through the Straits of Bonifacio, Stromboli was descried, with fiery streams of lava running down its sides, on February 28, and Port Said was reached on March 3.

"Did Port Said strike you as being as bad as it is painted?" said our interviewer.

"Slightly worse," said Mr. Umney. "Immediately on landing we

were surrounded by beggars galore. Every child-beggar has 'got no father or mother,' and every 'blind beggar' can

see a coin dropped in the street. Truly, the man who said it is 'peopled with the outpourings of Hades, and is a cess-pool of vice and iniquity,' was not far wrong."

At Port Said the passengers were transferred to the P. and O. *Isis*, carrying mails between Port Said and Brindisi. The passage through the Suez Canal was made at the rate of four or five miles an hour. On March 5 the Red Sea was entered, and 22° to 84° F. was the temperature in the cabins. On March 8 Aden was reached, where the water-tanks, said to have been built about thirteen hundred years ago, were inspected. These tanks have been restored from time to time, and are alleged to hold a two or three years' supply of water. The next stopping-place was Colombo, where the heat was intense. From Colombo Mr. Umney went to Kandy by train, a journey of about seventy-five miles, stopping overnight and visiting, amongst other places, the Temple of the Tooth and the Royal Botanical Gardens at Peradenya. The botanical gardens have an area of 150 acres, and one can see practically everything growing there which is used in medicine—cardamoms, cinchonas, *Melaleuca minor*, *Pimento officinalis*, *Santalum album*, *Piper longa* and *nigra*, jute, indigo, citronella-grass, rubber-trees, cloves, a lovely avenue of nutmeg-trees, and many other things of interest. From Kandy Mr. Umney journeyed to Hatton and thence to Adam's Peak, passing through Dikeya and its beautiful tea-plantations. [A tea-factory was visited, and the whole process of the finishing of tea was demonstrated. After the leaves have been plucked they are dried in thin layers at a fairly low temperature on wood or canvas trays, and after losing about twenty-five per cent. of water are put into revolving horizontal machines which break them up, and then, after a certain amount of drying in ovens, the tea is finally sifted through screens of five various sizes. The ascent of Adam's Peak and the glorious sunrise seen from the summit were described, and the narrator then went on to tell of his journey from Kandy to Nanuoya through magnificent scenery, the only thing lacking being the comfort of a good railway-car—a rather scarce article in Ceylon. From Nanuoya he went in a waggone to Nuwara Eliya—Ceylon's sanatorium—situated 6100 feet above the sea, and surrounded by mountains and hills. The Governor of the island, Sir West Ridgway, has a summer residence here, and there are grounds for tennis, golf, cricket, football, and hockey, as well as a racecourse and excellent fishing. The season is from February to May, and the temperature about 72° F. in the day, and three out of four nights it freezes.

Embarking again on the s.s. *Coromand*—a small boat compared with the *China*—the travellers left Colombo, touched at Penang, where they visited the gardens and saw a waterfall or two, and got to Singapore on April 4. Through the kindness of Mr. E. A. Smith, of Maynards (Limited), wholesale druggists, Singapore, and Mr. Machado, a tour was made through the economic portion of the botanical gardens. These gardens rank second to those at Buitenzorg, in Java. Hong-Kong was reached five days later, and the Happy Valley and the racecourse and the cemetery were visited by means of jinrickshas. The city of Victoria, which is really a part of Hong-Kong, and contains the major portion of the Chinese population, was visited, the theatre and an opium-den being the most notable sights. Canton, with its strong-smelling streets, was afterwards explored.

"Canton is said to be one of the cleanest of the Chinese cities," said Mr. Umney. "All I can say is, I hope I shall be spared ever going into a dirty one, as during the whole time that I was there I was compelled to inhale the fragrant weed as an antidote to the most frightful odours that seem to envelope everything."

The island of Shameem is where the majority of Europeans live. It is only half a mile long, and contains some very nice houses and offices. Amongst the places visited were the Temple of the Five Hundred Genii, the five-storey Pagoda, the Temple of Confucius, the Temple of the Five Genii, the Flowery Pagoda, &c., as well as many workshops. The party returned to Hong-Kong, and from there proceeded to Shanghai, but only for a few hours.

From China they went to Japan, visiting Nagasaki, Kobé, Yokohama, Kyoto with its beautiful rapids, the Osaka Exhibition, Miyanosita, Hakone, and Ashinorga. A trip round the base of Fuji, which occupied four days, was undertaken—the party living in Japanese fashion, doing their



MR. ERNEST A. UMNEY.



own cooking, and enjoying the magnificent scenery, especially noting the mountains, which were covered for miles with azaleas in full bloom.

Leaving Yokohama on May 23, it took nearly eleven days to cover the 4,300 miles to Vancouver, and the weather, although fine, was exceedingly cold—in fact, on two days, in the neighbourhood of the Aleutian Islands, there was snow. Vancouver was reached on June 2, and the following day a start was made for New York. Everything is provided for in the way of comforts on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the scenery through the Rockies is beyond description. On one portion of the journey, when ascending the steepest part of this range, there were five engines on to draw the sixteen cars. Winnipeg was touched for a few hours. This city has some fine buildings, and many persons say it is to be the city of Canada. The land is fetching an enormous price, and the place is a central depot of the C. P. Railway. The Niagara Falls were seen by night, and New York was at length reached, the voyage across the Atlantic being made in the s.s. *St. Paul*, belonging to the American Line. The *St. Paul* was in communication with the s.s. *Philadelphia*, at a distance of 125 miles, by means of wireless telegraphy, and Southampton was safely reached on June 18.

## Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

### COUNCIL-MEETING.

AT Wednesday's meeting the first results of the new system of committees were shown. So far the method seems to be working smoothly and with advantage to the prompt despatch of business. Mr. Robinson, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the report, and obtained permission to put out on deposit some of the large balance of the General Fund Account. Two grants, amounting to 27*l.*, were made from the Benevolent Fund. Mr. Wootton proposed that a deputation from the Council wait on the Board of Inland Revenue in reference to the designation of medicines, but after a long discussion in committee it was resolved to let the General Purposes Committee discuss the advisability of seeking an interview with the authorities. Mr. Walter Hills was appointed to represent the Society on the conference which advises the Pharmacopœia Committee of the General Medical Council. Mr. W. L. Currie (Glasgow) was co-opted a member of the Council in place of Mr. A. L. Savory, resigned. Mr. J. M. Treneer and Mr. G. M. J. Cole were appointed Jacob Bell scholars, and Mr. G. Naylor secured the Manchester Scholarship, these being the recommendations of the examiners.

THE monthly meeting of the Council took place on July 1 at 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. There were present the President (Mr. S. R. Atkins), Vice-President (Mr. C. B. Allen), Treasurer (Mr. Walter Hills), and Messrs. M. Carteighe, A. Cooper, O. Corder, W. G. Cross, R. L. Gifford, J. F. Harrington, G. T. W. Newsholme, C. J. Park, R. A. Robinson, C. Symes, and A. C. Wootton.

### ELECTIONS.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and approved, the election of members and student-associates took place. Several persons were also restored to the Register.

THE PRESIDENT read letters from Messrs. Harrison, Young, and Taylor announcing that they would not be present at the meeting.

### FINANCE.

The report of the Finance Committee showed the following balances :

	£	s.	d.
General Fund Account ... ..	6,357	8	2
Benevolent Fund... ..	709	0	0
Donation Account ... ..	19	13	6

and recommended for payment 998*l.*, made up as follows: *Journal*, 372*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*; school examinations and library, 68*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*; house, 28*l.* 2*s.*; medals, 15*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; stationery and printing, 50*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*; current expenses, 370*l.*; salaries, 163*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*

Mr. ROBINSON, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, moved the adoption of the report. He noted the large balance on the General Fund Account, and asked that the committee be empowered from time to time to place such sums on deposit. With the assistance of the Secretary an estimate had been made of the receipts and payments for the next three months, and it was found that two or three thousand pounds could be placed on deposit.

Mr. HARRINGTON seconded the suggestion to place the surplus money on deposit, and

The PRESIDENT said he entirely agreed with it.

Mr. NEWSHOLME asked for how long it was proposed to place the money on deposit.

Mr. ROBINSON explained that the Committee would consult with the Secretary and Treasurer and see for how long the money could be spared.

The report was adopted and the resolution passed.

### BENEVOLENCE.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in moving the adoption of the report of the Benevolent Fund Committee, said there were only two cases before the Committee. A grant of 15*l.* was made in one case and 13*l.* in the other. It was also thought that canvassing cards used by candidates for annuities should be submitted to the Secretary for approval, the idea being to regulate, not encourage, canvassing. It is felt that subscribers would then know that the statements on the cards were absolutely correct.

Mr. HARRINGTON asked why the names of the persons relieved from the Fund were not given on the agenda, but

Mr. GLYN-JONES pointed out that the names were known to the Committee when the cases were discussed.

Mr. ROBINSON said that was a matter which the Committee might look into.

The report was adopted.

### LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee was next taken. The report concerned the attendance at the Society's libraries and museums, and recommended that five o'clock be the closing time during July, August, and September. The Curator reported on the additions to the museum during the last seven years, and obtained permission to attend the annual meeting of the Museum Association in July. The school staff attended and recommended that the usual issue of the prospectus be made during July to members and Student-Associates of the Society. It was also recommended that the School of Pharmacy be advertised in certain journals. Mr. James Stuart Hills was nominated Salter's Research Fellow. The stone staircase and passage leading to the library have been inspected and declared to be unsafe. Defective material is to be replaced at a cost of 65*l.* 12*s.* A letter was received from Mr. Butt intimating that he intended withdrawing the Butt Scholarship, and in consequence no further nomination was made.

The report was received and adopted.

### THE STAMP ACT.

Mr. WOOTTON moved:

That the Board of Inland Revenue be asked to receive a deputation from the Council on the subject of the designation of medicines.

He hoped the Council would realise that the disaster that is threatened to the trade furnishes an opportunity to be of great service to chemists. It is not certain that anyone can do much good in the matter, but if anybody can render



service it is the Council. Mr. Wootton then enumerated the events which have led up to the present state of affairs. Mr. Sanguinetti, a chemist in one of the western suburbs of London, was prosecuted for a label which had on it the word "Influenza," without any specific recommendation. The Board of Inland Revenue held that this was a "holding out" within the meaning of the Stamp Act. The case was contested by the Chemists' Defence Association—and he thought the Association perfectly justified in contesting it—and won before the Magistrate. The Drug-trade Appeal Fund then decided to maintain the defence in the High Court to which the Inland Revenue authorities appealed. When the case came before the Court it was poorly presented, and the Court found for the Revenue. About the same time the ammoniated tincture of quinine case, in which Mr. Glyn-Jones was victorious, was heard. He (Mr. Wootton) mentioned this because it influenced the Board in the ingenious dovetailing of the two judgments together in framing their policy. Until the Sanguinetti case he (the speaker) did not think the Board had any particular intention to reverse the practice of the past twenty years. It was explicitly stated in the instructions to officers—

The Board recognise the necessity that exists for giving to a preparation such a designation or name as shall distinguish it from other medicines, and they do not attribute any further meaning to such words as cough-mixture, liver-pills, lip-salve, teething-powders, corn-paint, &c., &c. Labels, &c., so worded, must, however, contain no other reference to an ailment if it is desired to avoid liability. The use of names of organs of the body in connection with any medicines is held to mean and include the diseases to which such organs are subject.

Under that sanction, which was supposed to be as pertinent as the Act itself, chemists have built up little businesses in medicines with these necessary designations. Now the Board propose to practically ruin these traders. The same applies to the sale of pennyworths. It seems ridiculous to put a 1½d. stamp on a penny box of pills, but the Board have power to enforce it. The Board have probably been bombarded by chemists sending labels, but they have had no choice but to declare the labels liable. It was perhaps a pity that the matter was not dropped and allowed to blow over. The result has been the pronouncement of the Board that

they have decided not to press for payment of medicine-stamp duty in cases where an article is sold by a duly qualified chemist or druggist under such a designation as "cough-mixture," provided that the composition of the article is fully disclosed in the label, or that the article is prepared in accordance with a formula in the British Pharmacopœia or other well-known book of reference, and that a statement to that effect is inserted in the label. Where, however, such words as "cough-mixture" are used without a statement of the ingredients from which the article is prepared, the Board feel that they have no alternative but to hold that liability to duty is incurred.

Some people hold that it does not much matter, as the formula can be published on the label, but he (the speaker) supposed the general feeling in the country is against that view. The revenue from stamped medicines has gone up, and is now a substantial amount, so that the Board cannot be expected to throw it over. He had had considerable experience of the officials of the Board, as had Mr. Carteighe and Mr. Glyn-Jones, and he felt sure those councillors would agree with him when he said the Board had always tried to work in harmony with the trade. (Hear, hear.) Tax-gathering is not an altogether pleasant operation, but the officials have tried to make it as pleasant as possible. No doubt the Board had a number of unreasonable letters, but he (the speaker) thought they tried to get at the general feeling of the trade. Continuing, Mr. Wootton said he wished to avoid going into details as to what the deputation should discuss with the Board, and no doubt questions would arise which might give difficulty. If the Council agreed to the deputation he would ask that a small committee be appointed to discuss the matter and appoint the deputation from themselves. The matter was, he thought, urgent, as the last thing that had occurred was a decision to give the trade up to September 30 to clear off their liable labels. That is not much time to clear off cough-mixture labels, but, apart from that, this is one of the worst decisions the trade have had from the Board—it rather nails the lid on the coffin. He did not want the Council to take a lot of interest in outside work, but this matter is one of importance, which

the Council could well take in hand. Most chemists use a lot of stamps, but to have to put them on the simple remedies that are constantly asked for would be a monstrous tax. It is all very well to say that the formula can be given on the label, but a chemist does not want to give away the results of his experience, and may not always desire to adopt B.P. formulæ. It is clear that if the trade is to approach the Board at all, it can be best done through the Council. From what he had been told by the highest in authority, he was sure the Board would much more appreciate a deputation from the Council than from any other body.

Dr. SYMES, in seconding the motion, said he had a similar motion on the agenda, which he would willingly withdraw. His desire was the same as that of Mr. Wootton—to do a service to the whole trade. He (the speaker) had at times supported the Council in not taking up little trade matters which he had thought would be best done by other bodies, but this is a serious matter to a large number of persons. Whilst he would not advocate that the trade be free, and thus open the way to rampant quackery, and although he used but few patent-medicine stamps himself, he recognised that there are numbers of domestic remedies which are a convenience to the public and on which chemists have the opportunity of displaying their skill. The present tendency in dealing with medicines is such as to take away much interest in the work. The decision of the Board is a serious matter to chemists, and those who have been groaning at a 6¼ per cent. tax on net income will appreciate what it means to have a tax of 12½ per cent. on gross earnings. It is also desirable that the matter be taken in hand as early as possible. He withdrew the motion which stood in his name on the agenda.

The PRESIDENT said, as there was some correspondence on the question, it might be desirable to discuss the matter in committee.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said, irrespective of the correspondence, the question was one that could only be discussed in open Council with kid gloves on. He was not sure that the good that would result from the discussion would not be neutralised if it were more or less insincere.

Mr. COOPER was of the same opinion, and, on the suggestion of the PRESIDENT that members would be able to speak a little more freely, the Council went into committee.

For forty minutes the bearings of the subject were discussed, and then in open Council

The PRESIDENT put Mr. Wootton's motion, and

Mr. GLYN-JONES moved, as an amendment, that the General Purposes Committee consider the advisability of asking the Board of Inland Revenue to receive a deputation. The matter is one of importance and difficulty, and requires great delicacy of handling. Before the Council is pledged to send a deputation, an opportunity should be given to have the matter discussed by the General Purposes Committee. There is a good deal of commotion about the recent decisions, which had led to rather precipitate action in some cases, but he was confident that the outcome will eventually be a more satisfactory state of affairs.

Mr. CROSS seconded the amendment. He objected to treat the matter with hands tied by a resolution of Council. The committee, in considering the matter, should have a free hand, and not have the course definitely marked out. He thought there are features in recent cases which are rather advantageous to the registered man.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said he wished to say a few words for the consideration of the committee and the brethren outside. He knew some of the difficulties, and sympathised with Mr. Wootton. He (Mr. Carteighe) wished to say to the trade, "Do not you chemists be in a blue funk." It is most degrading, he added, for educated men at once to write off to their wholesale house when a little difficulty arises. What the Stamp Act was intended to do need not now concern us, but there is no doubt that it has been, on the whole, a trade-benefit. If the stamp-duties were abolished, as some would have it, the trade would soon find out that it would be a disaster. Then, as regards amending the Act, "Heaven help us!" said Mr. Carteighe, "in seeking to amend a law where the revenue is greater from those who are not chemists than from those who are chemists." "When I was a young man," continued Mr. Carteighe, "as young and full of energy as Mr. Glyn-Jones, and in the days when reporters were not present at the Council-meetings, I brought



up a motion that the Council use their influence in obtaining an abolition of the Stamp Act. I was supported by Mr. Brady, and the motion was carried, against the advice of good old Sandford. I have learnt since, as Mr. Glyn-Jones will soon, the enormous value of doing nothing on certain occasions. I looked at the matter from the ethical ground, and, when the motion passed, set to work to look into the matter. Mr. Wootton may not be aware of the fact, but Mr. Brough, who was then Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, asked me to write an article on the subject, and I did—but the opinions there expressed were the very opposite to the resolution I had succeeded in getting the Council to pass."

The PRESIDENT then put the amendment by Mr. Glyn-Jones, only Mr. Wootton voting against it. The amendment then became the substantive motion and was passed.

Mr. WOOTTON asked on what date would the General Purposes Committee discuss the matter?

The PRESIDENT: Next Wednesday at three o'clock.

Mr. CARTEIGHE: One minute, please. I have already two committees for next week, and you wouldn't like to take a man away from Henley Regatta! (Laughter.)

Mr. HILLS said it might take six months to collate the opinions which Mr. Wootton suggested should be obtained from the country.

After further discussion, the date was fixed for Thursday, July 16, at twelve o'clock.

A resolution by the North British Branch on the medicine-stamp question (see page 36) was referred to the General Purposes Committee for consideration.

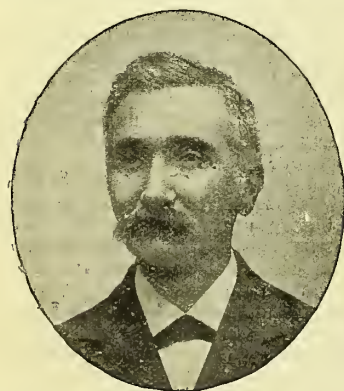
#### THE PHARMACOPEIA REPRESENTATIVE.

The General Purposes Committee recommended that Mr. Walter Hills be appointed to represent the Society on the Pharmacopœia Conference of the General Medical Council. This was agreed to, Mr. CARTEIGHE remarking that it was a wise conclusion, and the PRESIDENT adding that it would be an advantage to have a representative in touch with the Council.

#### COUNCIL VACANCY.

Mr. CARTEIGHE moved that Mr. W. L. Currie (Glasgow) be co-opted to the seat on the Council vacant by the resignation of Mr. Savory. There have been certain precedents for the co-option of an unsuccessful candidate at the election, but there had been at times doubts as to whether jealousy would not be excited by such a course. The general feeling, however, now is that, apart from territorial representation, it has been an unwritten law that there should be two

members from Scotland—one from the East and the other from the West. He (the speaker) did not attach the slightest importance to territorial representation, but he thought it desirable on general grounds to have representatives from all parts of the country. Mr. Currie is in touch with the Federation, is an active man, and takes a live interest in pharmacy. The co-option of Mr. Currie will make their collective machinery as



MR. W. L. CURRIE.

representative as it can be. He did not know whether the claims of Mr. Currie have been especially pressed from Scotland, but he had seen them urged in the Press.

Mr. NEWSHOLME, in seconding the motion for co-option, said Mr. Currie had filled the office of Vice-Chairman of the North British Executive, and had done good work in that respect.

The PRESIDENT, referring to the last remark of Mr. Carteighe, said there was an official letter from Mr. Peter Boa, expressing the strong feeling there was in Scotland for another representative on the Council.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said it was a great satisfaction to him that some of them in the South had been so fortunate as to make a proposition with which Scotland was in perfect agreement. (Laughter.)

The motion passed unanimously.

#### SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS.

As a consequence of the reports of the examiners, Mr. Joseph Maurice Treneer and Mr. George Marie Joseph Cole were awarded the Bell scholarships for the ensuing year. The Manchester scholarship was awarded to Mr. Geo. Naylor.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in seconding the motion awarding the above scholarships, said it was satisfactory to know that there had been an excellent competition for the Jacob Bell scholarship. There were twenty-six candidates, and no fewer than ten qualified by the number of marks for the scholarship. For the Manchester scholarship there was only one candidate, but he obtained the requisite number of marks to qualify for the scholarship. There was another matter on which he would like to say a few words. They had heard from a high authority that the time was ripe for the consideration of fiscal changes, and he thought it was so in the case of their scholarships. There had, with the exception of some alterations in the conditions, been very little change made in the regulations governing the scholarships since their foundation. The work required was of two kinds—one purely classical and the other to test the training of the candidate as an apprentice. When the Bell scholarship was founded it was thought well to insist that the holder should be educated in advance of the Preliminary examination of that day, and regulations were laid down to give effect to that view. Now every student-associate has to pass a higher mathematical examination than that required by the scholarship regulations. What he (the speaker) wished to know was the best way of getting the subject reconsidered. Should he bring up a motion?

The PRESIDENT said the course suggested would be best.

Messrs. Pinches and White, who conducted the examination, were thanked for their services.

#### MONEY FOR SCOTLAND.

The SECRETARY announced that he had received since the meeting of the Finance Committee a letter from Mr. Hill, of the North British Branch, asking for 300*l.* for current expenses. The Council would have to pass a special resolution, as that sum had not been included in the amount submitted for payment.

Mr. ROBINSON: It is not fair to the Council that this matter should be left to the last moment. I do not propose to offer any objections, but it is obviously impossible to form an estimate of money likely to be in hand, as we have tried to do to-day, if these requests are sprung on us at the last moment.

The resolution was passed.

#### OTHER BUSINESS.

Professor J. Reynolds Green, Professor Wynne, and Professor Greenish were re-appointed to form the School staff, and Mr. T. E. Wallis was re-appointed assistant-lecturer in physics.

A letter was received from Mr. A. L. Savory thanking the Council for their appreciation and the President for the generous remarks made at the last meeting.

Letters of thanks were also received from the officers of the Society who had been re-elected, and from the scholars.

A report from Mr. Hill on the election of the North British Branch Executive was received (see *C. & D.*, June 27, page 1012).

A further communication from Mr. Hill announced that Mr. David Brown Dott has been elected Chairman and Mr. Thomas Dunlop Vice-Chairman of the North British Executive.

Mr. CARTEIGHE remarked that there is the constitutional difficulty of co-opting a Scotch member, which the Executive would have to settle. No doubt one member would willingly resign to make the right number.

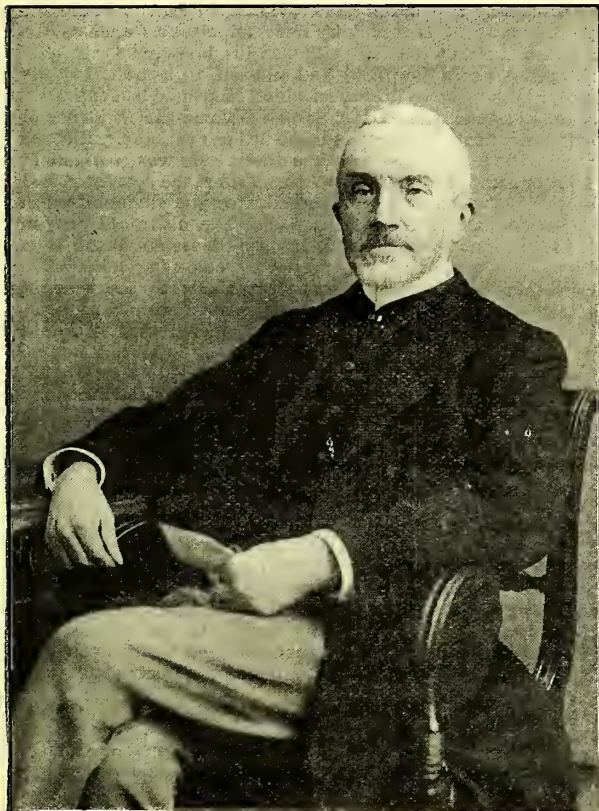
After consideration of the report of the *Journal* Committee, which took place in committee, it was announced that it had been decided to appoint Mr. John Humphrey, pharmaceutical chemist, as editor for the ensuing year.

The Council then adjourned.



## DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL PRIZES.

ON Friday afternoon, June 26, a new function was inaugurated at 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. Hitherto prize-winners in the School of Pharmacy have been presented with their awards at the opening of the School session in October, but the Council have recently decided that the end of the session is a more appropriate time for the ceremony; hence this meeting. It was a gathering of more than usual interest, as it was the first public function at which the new



THE NEW PRESIDENT,  
Mr. S. R. Atkins, J.P., Pharmaceutical Chemist.

President (Mr. S. R. Atkins) had presided. The attendance was not great, and but for the presence of the students, the benches of the lecture-theatre would have been rather sparsely populated. Mrs. Carteghe, Mrs. C. B. Allen, and other ladies graced the front benches and beamed approvingly on the bright cluster of lady students near by. The President (who was loudly welcomed) entered at 3 P.M., and was supported by the Vice-President (Mr. C. B. Allen), Professor Greenish (Dean of the School), Professor Palmer Wynne, and Messrs. Carteghe, Walter Hills, Northway Butt, W. S. Glyn-Jones, and R. Bremridge. Amongst others present were Messrs. F. Harwood Lescher, Charles Umney, Leo Atkinson, and E. White. The President proved equal to the oratorical reputation he has acquired, and his speech to the students after the prizes had been distributed was characterised by a cultured and lofty eloquence.

## THE EXPLANATION.

The PRESIDENT, who on rising was loudly cheered, said that first of all some explanation was necessary for their presence, and the fact that the School prizes were to be distributed that day instead of in October. It had been

found by experience that by the beginning of the October session many prize-winners were scattered over the Kingdom, and sometimes over the world. So it came about that when names were called there was no response. This was at times somewhat painful, but the absence of prize-winners on those occasions had, it was well known, not arisen from want of interest in the School or its awards, but rather from the inconvenience of attending from some remote part of the country, where they were holding, perhaps, positions of importance that required their presence. The School Committee and the teaching staff had therefore thought it better that the School prizes (and the School prizes only) should be distributed on the breaking-up day. It was felt, moreover, that a modicum of interest and distinction should be given to a day that all scholars look forward to. (Applause.) He intimated apologies for absence from Professor Reynolds Green, who was examining in practical botany at the University of Birmingham, and from the ex-President (Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme), who had an important engagement in Sheffield. He then called upon the Dean of the School to read his report.

## THE REPORT.

Professor GREENISH said the past session had been a favourable one. Although the number of entries had not come up to last year, it exceeded that of the year previous. The attendance had been excellent and the character of the work well maintained. There had been every diligence shown by both teachers and taught, as was proved by the results in the somewhat severe test of the Pharmaceutical Society's examination. At the last Minor examination 72 per cent. of the candidates from the School had been successful out of a total success of 23 per cent. In the Major examination 75 per cent. passed. These results vouched for the satisfactory nature of the teaching in the School as well as for the way in which the scholars had profited by it. As another example of the success of the School it was gratifying to report that the Pereira medal had this year been gained by a student of the School of Pharmacy. (Applause.) The usual prize-examinations had been held, and no fewer than four certificates had been gained by ladies. (Great applause.) The prize-winners were as follows:

## ELEMENTARY COURSE.

*Practical Chemistry*.—Bronze medal, Joseph Richardson; certificates of honour, Alfred Wade, Georgina E. Barltrop.

*Chemistry and Physics*.—Bronze medal, F. G. C. Walker; certificates of honour, May Burt, Hilda B. Caws.

*Botany*.—Bronze medal, F. G. C. Walker; certificate of honour, J. W. Privett, Thos. Ough.

*Materia Medica*.—Bronze medal, J. W. Privett; certificate of honour, F. G. C. Walker, G. W. Tunnicliff.

*Pharmacy*.—Silver medal, F. G. C. Walker.

## ADVANCED COURSE.

*Botany*.—Silver medal, A. Trentham Maw; certificates of honour, Nora Renouf, (A. Norman Hirst and Bernard Collitt, equal).

*Chemistry*.—Silver medal, Bernard Collitt; certificates of honour, J. Trevor Cart, A. Norman Hirst.

*Practical Chemistry*.—Silver medal, Thomas Llewelyn; certificates of honour, F. Howard Moor, Nora Renouf.

*Materia Medica*.—Silver medal, A. Norman Hirst; certificates of honour, Thos. Llewelyn, S. E. Walmsley.

During the session there had been a few changes. The prize-distribution day had been alluded to by the President. In the *personnel* of the staff there had been little change. Mr. J. Trevor Cart, a past Bell scholar, had been appointed junior demonstrator in the chemical laboratory, and a series of lectures by Mr. Harold Deane had been much appreciated. The Council, ever ready to do the best for the School, had re-modelled the equipments of the lecture-theatre and adapted it to modern requirements. Professor Greenish then referred to the recognition of the School staff by the University of London, and went on to say that after leaving the School, students do not lose interest, as was shown by the valuable work by them published in the journals. The social side of the School was touched upon and the Students' Association commended. The students had paid several instructive visits to various places—particularly to St. Thomas's Hospital, where Mr. Edmund White showed them



all that was to be seen in the excellent establishment under his charge. The Pharmaceutical Football Club, under the captaincy of Mr. Bernard Collitt, had developed so excellently that they had carried off the Inter-Pharmacy silver cup this year for the second time in succession. (Applause.)

#### THE PRIZES.

The PRESIDENT, remarking that the report was an excellent one, full of the acknowledgment of good work done and the promise of good work to come, then proceeded to distribute the prizes. This he did in a particularly happy manner. To Mr. A. Trentham Maw he said: "Your father, sir, is a very old friend of mine, and Maw is an honoured name in pharmacy. I am specially gratified at being able to congratulate you on your success." To Miss Renouf, who received quite an ovation, he said: "Miss Renouf, I am afraid my accent is not Parisian, but my congratulations are sincere. If I were capable of saying pretty things to ladies, I would certainly say them to you, for I am proud to think a lady student has distinguished herself at our School as you have done. We have had brilliant pupils from the Channel Islands before, but never a lady. If I were a competitor with a lady, I think I should be inclined to give up, for it seems to me I could not forget the famous line—

"If she will, she will, and there's an end on't."

Mr. Bernard Collitt and Mr. Norman Hirst were both enthusiastically received, and both received courtly commendation from the President as they came forward for their awards. In the elementary course Mr. F. G. C. Walker was described as "a pluralist," he having taken bronze medals in botany and chemistry and a silver medal in pharmacy. Copies of "Pharmacographia" and "Science Papers" to the silver medallists in chemistry, practical chemistry, and botany (presented by Sir Thomas Hanbury in memory of his brother Daniel Hanbury, F.R.S.), were handed to Messrs. Bernard Collitt and A. Trentham Maw, and copies of "Science Papers" to the silver medallists in materia medica and pharmacy were presented to Messrs. Norman Hirst and F. G. C. Walker.

#### THE ORATORY.

Mr. F. HARWOOD LESCHER (called upon by the President as "an old student and Pereira medallist") said a meeting of that kind carried him back to days of long ago, when prize-winning was not enlivened by the presence of ladies. He felt sure that their fighting with the ladies (so to speak) made them work all the harder, and the presence of the ladies as co-workers and competitors was all for good. He congratulated the students on the honours they had won. The work undoubtedly was harder than in his (the speaker's) day; at least, the expanse was wider, and they had to learn and to know a good deal more nowadays. He wished also to accord a welcome to the new President on this the occasion of his first public function. (Applause.) He was proud to see his friend Mr. Atkins, whom he had known for so many years, in the presidential chair. They had all admired his power, his eloquence, and the good work he had done for pharmacy; and if the secrets of the committee and the Council rooms were known, he felt sure that Mr. Atkins was esteemed as much for his wisdom as for his eloquence. There was an old saying of Horace—

Neque semper arcum tendit Apollo

—which, he felt, exactly suited the case. At the British Pharmaceutical Conference and in pleasant social gatherings, when Mr. Atkins unbends, he shows perhaps the best side of his character, which could not be better exemplified than in the lines of Tennyson:

Not only to keep down the base in man,  
But teach high thought and amiable words,  
And courtliness, and the desire of fame,  
And love of truth, and all that makes a man.

(Great applause.)

The PRESIDENT said he desired first to address a few homely words to the students. He had a large order to give them—a big demand to make. He asked for the enthusiastic support of one and all of them to the Pharmaceutical Society. He hoped they would never forget their School and would cling to the Society throughout their lifetime. It may be thought somewhat prosaic, he said, but coming to it so often and walking through it for so many years, he had developed

an intense interest in the history of Bloomsbury Square, a few points in which he proposed to give. Evelyn, in his "Diary," under date of February 9, 1665, writes that he "dined that day with the Earl of Southampton in Bloomsbury, where he was building a noble square." That house, called "Bedford House," was pulled down in 1800, the Square in the seventeenth century being known as Southampton Square. Pepys, in his famous "Diary," tells of going to dine with his aristocratic friends in Bloomsbury Square, and in Queen Anne's reign every house in the Square was occupied by some aristocratic person. Pope speaks of it as a fashionable resort, and in the north-east corner of the Square stood Lord Mansfield's house, which was roughly handled in the Gordon riots. Mansfield had offended the protest party of that day by some unpopular decisions, the result being that the mob attacked his house, and not only subjected Lady Mansfield and himself to assault, but, destroyed the valuable library on which Mansfield had expended a large fortune. Then the Square became the residence of many eminent literary and scientific men. Sir Richard Steele, the essayist, used to live there. He was a friend of Addison, and contributed to the *Tatler*, the *Spectator*, and other famous papers. Richard Baxter, the divine, lived in the Square, and Akenside the poet. The elder D'Israeli in 1818 went to live at No. 6, his son Benjamin being then 14 years of age, and it was there that charming book "The Curiosities of Literature" was written. With the thought of the great and the good and wise men who have lived in Bloomsbury Square, it is not surprising that it should be considered worthy of remembrance. It should not be forgotten that there is not a house in the Square that has not been tenanted by some distinguished literary or scientific man, and he urged the students, when walking through the Square, to think of these things and let the spirit of its past greatness in a measure rest upon them. He asked all to be supporters of the Society. He could not guarantee them wealth as a recompense—wealthy pharmacists are the exception—but he asked whether wealth is all that was needed in life? With the excessive competition of the age and the differentiation that is taking place in business, he thought it is necessary for pharmacists more and more to resort to the scientific and more cultured side of their calling. "Go into your work with an enthusiastic devotion," he said, "and if you cannot get wealth, you will at least get consideration and reputation as being men and women of culture, of thought, and of intelligence. Hard things will be said," he continued, "of the line I am taking now. It will be brought up against me that the scientific side of pharmacy is all very well for some, but it has its difficulties for the many. I am not blind to that fact, but I feel confident that if more time and thought were given to the higher interests of pharmacy, there would be more protection from competition. For competition in pharmacy is far less on the brain side than on the commercial side." The President then went on to advise the students to cultivate habits of patient observation, not only in the immediate things of pharmacy, but in the great world outside. Only by observing the world of culture and thought, and cultivating the science of men and things, would knowledge and attainments accrue. Then the habit of patient reflection should also be cultivated. To his mind very few people think. Thinking is done for them, and their "beliefs," in politics, science, and sometimes religion, are acquired by heredity or environment. In his opinion, all men and women should patiently and deliberately think out the basis of their beliefs. Another axiom he put before them was, "Have your note-book ready," so that directly an impression comes it may be fixed. By this habit of fixing thought and making notes knowledge of life is acquired. "He most lives who thinks most, feels the noblest, and acts the best." Or with Lowell—

There is no wind but soweth seeds  
Of a more true and open life  
Which must unlooked for into high-soul'd deeds  
With wayside beauty rife.

In conclusion, he thanked Mr. Lescher for his kind and heartfelt remarks concerning himself. (Great applause.)

#### THE FINALE.

Mr. LESCHER then called for a strong and heartfelt vote of thanks to the President for his eloquent address and good advice, and for his presiding so ably.



Mr. CARTEIGHE, in seconding, desired to endorse the eloquent remarks of Mr. Lescher regarding their President. In passing he referred to the interest taken during many years by Mr. Lescher in the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. Lescher is one of these great gentlemen, he said, who are looked upon with awe as "going on 'Change.'" (Laughter.) "Going on 'Change'" is so important and serious a function that he (the speaker) would like to go on 'Change just once before he died. (Laughter.) He well remembered that even in his student days Mr. Lescher's going on 'Change was looked up to by other students as something that placed him on a pinnacle far above them. (Laughter.) But in spite of his greatness, Mr. Lescher's keen and unswerving interest in the Society was a thing that all might emulate. Referring to the President's address and his advice regarding the note-book, Mr. Carteighe told a humorous story of a studious German whom he once encountered on the top of a glacier, and whose sole equipment for Alpine climbing was an umbrella without a spike and a note-book. When the party had reached the top, after an eight-hours' climb, Mr. Carteighe's party offered their German companion some refreshment, but before he accepted it the Teutonic enthusiast asked to be excused until he sat down and wrote up his impressions in his note-book. (Laughter.) In that particular case he (the speaker) was inclined to think that the note-book was out of all proportion to the circumstances. (Laughter.) He thought, with all deference to what the President had said, it was unwise for students to attempt to put too much of what the lecturer said into notes. They should concentrate their attention on the lecturer, the lecture-table, and the lecture, and the proper time for the note-book was at the end of the lecture. He congratulated the President on the charming way in which he had presided that day. Their President was a pupil in the School many years ago, but he retained much of the freshness and geniality which makes life worth living. He commended the President's eloquent words regarding loyalty to the Society. It was not so much loyalty to men or things that was wanted, but rather to the symbolic representation of the things of pharmacy, which was instituted in 1841 and 1842 by an earnest band of distinguished men. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) And if in process of time the tendency was to abolish the so-called historic house, they need not mind. The individual with the true symbol of pharmacy would never forget the School in which he was educated, and if any did forget, it were better that they never entered the ranks of pharmacy. (Much applause.)

The vote was enthusiastically passed, and the PRESIDENT, in a few closing remarks, said the friendship of Mr. Carteighe was a valued element in his life. He thanked all for their kindness, but felt specially grateful that his past master (Mr. Carteighe) had not even called attention to any of the slips which his nervousness made him sure he had made. In spite of Mr. Carteighe's badinage regarding the note-book, he (the President) still ventured to assert that the note-book is a most useful factor in the acquisition and retention of knowledge. ("Hear, hear," and applause.)

Before the adjournment for tea, the PRESIDENT called for three cheers for the King's birthday. These were promptly accorded to the accompaniment of vocal harmony.

#### NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

A MEETING of the Executive was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Friday, June 26. Mr. PETER BOA presided, and, in regard to the

#### ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN,

suggested that the gentleman who was next to the top of the poll at the election was resident in Edinburgh, and as it was very convenient for business-purposes that the Chairman should be at hand, he nominated Mr. David Brown Dott as his successor. He spoke of his qualifications, and said he thought Mr. Dott would make an exceptionally good Chairman.

Mr. DOIG seconded. It was a matter of very deep regret to the Executive that Mr. Boa should leave the chair. He had conducted business well, and they would have been very happy if he had remained in the position. Mr. Dott had

great qualifications for Chairman, and he had no doubt he would get a grip of the business in a very short time.

The motion was adopted with great cordiality.

#### THANKS TO THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN.

Before Mr. Boa left the chair Mr. STORRAR moved a very hearty vote of thanks to him for his conduct in the chair during the past three or four years. The Executive was rather a nebulous body, but he always looked upon it as an extremely important and useful one; but to be so it depended very largely on the tact and wisdom of the Chairman. They would all agree that they could not have had anyone more interested in pharmaceutical matters in the Chair than Mr. Boa. He had conducted their business with dignity and success, and he had represented them worthily on many occasions.

Mr. KERR seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Mr. BOA acknowledged the vote, and left the chair in favour of

Mr. DOTT, who, in taking it, said he accepted the position with diffidence, not being at all sure that he would be able to discharge the duties to the satisfaction of the Executive. But his election had been so kindly proposed, and so unanimously passed, that he could not do otherwise than accept. He would have preferred if someone had been elected with more experience and more direct connection with retail pharmacy.



THE NEW CHAIRMAN,  
Mr. D. B. Dott, F.I.C., F.R.S.E.,  
Pharmaceutical Chemist.

#### ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr. STRACHAN proposed Mr. Thomas Dunlop as Vice-Chairman. It was desirable to have a Glasgow man in that position, and there was no one more suitable than Mr. Dunlop.

Mr. DOIG seconded, and said he would have pleasure in vacating the vice-chair in favour of Mr. Dunlop. They wanted strong men in Glasgow very much.

The appointment was agreed to, and Mr. DUNLOP, having taken the chair, expressed his thanks.

The CHAIRMAN, on behalf of the Executive, welcomed Mr. GILES (Aberdeen), the new member, who acknowledged the compliment. The CHAIRMAN also referred with regret to the retirement of Mr. Claude Henry.

#### THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

was then appointed, consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and resident members, and Mr. Fisher (Dunfermline).

It was agreed to remit to this committee arrangements for the evening meetings and other matters.

The ASSISTANT-SECRETARY explained that a former committee had been instructed to co-operate with the Council and the divisional Secretaries in any action which might be necessary with regard to the Poisons Committee's report or the Pharmacy Bill, and to co-operate with the Board of Examiners with regard to the University education scheme. The present position of that scheme was that Aberdeen University accepted it as it stood. Edinburgh University had asked the Executive to formulate some modifications, and Glasgow and St. Andrews also proposed alterations; and they had asked an interview with the Senatus of each of these universities.

#### EXAMINERS' COMMITTEE.

A committee for nomination of examiners, consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Messrs. Boa, Kerr, Storrar, Strachan, and Tocher, was appointed. It was mentioned that there will be three vacancies on the Board at the end of this year.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Messrs. Cummings, Kerr, Giles, Cowie, and Naysmith were appointed delegates to attend the B.P. Conference at Bristol.



## THE MEDICINE-STAMP ACTS.

Before the close of the meeting Mr. DOIG brought under the notice of the Executive the action of the Inland Revenue authorities in connection with the case raised by Mr. Glyn-Jones under which powers which had been allowed to fall into desuetude had been revived. He wished to bring into prominence the view of public safety rather than the commercial or trade point of view. There were many home remedies, such as cough syrups and mixtures, diarrhoea-mixture, and antibilious pills, which were used in every household; and if such articles were merely labelled "The Mixture," without any indication of the purpose for which they were to be used, there was serious risk of a mixture perhaps intended for an adult being taken from the shelf in a cupboard or press and given to a child in mistake for a mixture intended for that child. They should take steps to point out that danger to the public if the latest policy of the Inland Revenue was enforced.

Mr. BOA thought it would lie with the public to complain, and they would probably do so if they were made aware that chemists were not allowed to put a label on mixtures to distinguish one from the other. He suggested that to put well-considered questions in Parliament might have an important effect.

Mr. CUMMINGS said the Revenue Department took the view that they had no choice or discretion, but that they must abide by the law which had been laid down by the Judges.

Mr. GILES said he did not think his Association would agree with all that Mr. Doig had said. There had been expressions of opinion that the enforcement of the latest view of the Revenue Department might in the long run be to the advantage of chemists.

Ultimately, however, the following motion, proposed by Mr. DOIG and seconded by Mr. TOCHER, was unanimously adopted:

That in the interests of public safety the Council be respectfully asked to take into consideration the present action of the Revenue Department with reference to the labelling of domestic remedies and their liability to stamp-duty.

This was all the public business.

## South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

**TRADE IN ORANGIA.**—The trade returns for the quarter ended March 31 show that the imports into the Orange River Colony for the three months amounted to 622 482*l.*, as compared with 363 823*l.* in the corresponding quarter of 1902. The increase in imports for the nine months ended March 31 exceeds three-quarters of a million.

**BRITISH TRADE AND PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS.**—M. Henry Birchenough, the commissioner who has recently returned from a trade mission on behalf of the British Government, stated at a complimentary banquet at Macclesfield last week that the present volume of exports to South Africa is not a temporary boom, but is the commencement of a period of great and sustained expansion.

**PATENTS.**—Notice has been given to the Colonial Secretary at Cape Town of application for a patent for an invention for "improvements in drying and preserving milk and milk-like products" by John Augustus Just, chemist, of Syracuse, New York, U.S.A. Edward Hall Miller, F.C.S., of 81 Chardmore Road, Clapton Common, has also applied for a patent for an invention for "a process for the elimination of sulphur from sulphide ores."

## The South African Tariff.

Since we published the draft of the Customs Union Conference agreed to at Bloemfontein, in our issue of June 20 page 999, we have received further particulars. Our advice state that a good deal of disappointment is felt in Johannesburg. The popular idea was that the tariff would serve to reduce the cost of living in the Transvaal, but it appears

that the revenue has had first consideration, as what is to be remitted in one direction is met by an increase in another. A point that deserves prominence is the fact that the preference of 25 per cent. on British goods, for which the Convention provides, is less far-reaching than was at first supposed, as it only applies to the *ad valorem* duties, and leaves the long list of special duties in Class I. unaffected. This class includes acetic acid, vinegar, spirits, tea, sugar, confectionery, cocoa, coffee, soap, &c. To make the point clear, we quote the Article III. which deals with this rebate:

A rebate of Customs duties shall be granted on any goods and articles, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United Kingdom, imported therefrom into the Union for consumption therein to the extent following:

(a) In the case of goods and articles liable to Customs duty under Class I, II, or V, a rebate of 25 per cent. of any duty chargeable thereon at an *ad valorem* rate, but of no other duty, and

(b) In the case of goods and articles liable under Class III. to duty at an *ad valorem* rate of 2½ per cent., a rebate of the whole of such duty:

Provided, that the manufactured goods and articles in respect of which such rebate as aforesaid shall be granted shall be *bona fide* the manufactures of the United Kingdom, and that in the event of any question arising as to whether any goods or articles are entitled to any such rebate as aforesaid the decision of the Minister or other executive officer in whom the control of the Customs Department immediately concerned is vested, shall be final.

This rebate is extended to the produce and manufactures of any British colony, protectorate, or possession granting equivalent privileges to the Colonies belonging to the Union. The exemption of such items as tea, coffee, cocoa, &c., from the preference list would point to the fact that the main principle followed appears to be the fostering of South African produce. The duty on coffee shows a slight increase, but there is a slight reduction on cocoa. On acetic acid the *ad valorem* duty has disappeared, the duty of 3*s.* per gal. remaining the same. Confectionery stands at about the same figure, the duty being 2*d.*, against 1½*d.* plus 9 per cent. The duty on soap is about the same as before, ¾*d.* per lb., but a rebate may be granted if the soap is imported for and exclusively used in the wool-washing industry. There is a considerable reduction in toilet-soaps, amounting to practically 10*s.* per 100 lbs. The duties on spirits remain the same, with the exception of spirits as follows:

Other sorts, exceeding 3 per cent. of proof spirit, but not exceeding the strength of proof by Sykes's hydrometer, which is fixed at 15*s.* per gal., and so on in proportion for any greater strength, and all spirits have to pay an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent.; and under Article 17 a duty can be levied not exceeding the Excise duty imposed by the importing Colony.

Methylated spirit is not mentioned outside of the 10-per-cent. *ad val.* duty, and the Lieutenant-Governor has power to grant a rebate of the whole or part of this duty, or on alcohol imported solely for manufacturing or scientific purposes. Unrefined sugar is on the same level as before, but the 9-per-cent. *ad val.* duty is abolished, and the Convention provides that the duty can be increased to meet the bounty allowed by any country outside the Brussels Convention. Refined sugar is, however, subject to an increased duty of 1*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lbs., evidently intended to benefit the Natal producers. Vinegar is another article on which there is a reduction, but it is specifically stated that it must be of standard strength, fit for immediate use—the general practice being to reduce it to the standard strength on arrival. In Class II. (mixed *ad val.* rates) perfumery extracts and essences of all kinds, including essential oils, are to pay a duty of 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, whereas previously they only paid 7½ per cent. The tariff is now being discussed by the Cape House of Assembly.

**THE NEXT BEST.**—Some time ago, says a writer in *V.C.*, an old woman had occasion to call in a doctor to see her husband, who had been ailing for some time. After seeing the patient, the doctor told the old lady there was nothing serious the matter, but to give the patient a "black draught," saying he would call again. When he called again he asked if she had done as he told her. "Well, doctor," she said, "I looked high and low for a black draught and could not find one, but I gave him the double-six domino, and it nearly choked him."



## Fish-liver Oil.

By JOHN C. UMNEY, F.C.S., and CHARLES T. BENNETT.

**O**WING to the high price ruling for cod-liver oil numerous sophistications have been detected in it, and, although a palatable substitute is, in a sense, to be welcomed, it is necessary that it should not be sold either as the genuine article or mixed with the oil obtained from cod-livers only.

We have recently been offered a sample of non-freezing fish-liver oil, the odour of which was by no means disagreeable, yet it did not possess the precise flavour characteristic of Norwegian cod-liver oil. This sample was found to answer the tests of the British Pharmacopœia, 1898, with the exception of the albumen-reaction, which is usually afforded in about six hours by the best grades of non-congealing Norwegian cod-liver oil. When immersed in a freezing-mixture for two hours no cloudiness was observed during that period. The oil gave a well-marked violet colour with strong sulphuric acid, and the sp. gr. came within the prescribed limits.

As it was recognised that such a product might under certain conditions escape detection when mixed with genuine cod-liver oil, further experiments were made to determine what chemical tests are necessary to detect it, and how, by the addition of further tests to those now in the British Pharmacopœia, it may be excluded. The physical and chemical characters are shown in the table appended in comparison with samples of Norwegian and Newfoundland oils:

—	Fish Oil	Norwegian Cod-liver Oil	Newfoundland Cod-liver Oil
Sp. gr. at 15° C.	0.922	0.928	0.927
Refractive index at 15° C. ...	1.4765	1.4828	1.4832
Saponification value ...	187.0	192.9	197.6
Iodine absorbed in 4 hrs. (P. G. test) ...	148.5	137.1	136.4
Free fatty acids (calculated as oleic acid) ...	3.10%	0.70%	1.55%
Fatty acids—melting point	26.5° C.	23.5° C.	26.5° C.
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ...	Intense purple	Well marked purple	Well marked purple
HNO <sub>3</sub> (Fuming)	Pale rose with slight purple colour at first	Pale rose with faint purple colour at first	Pale rose colour
One drop H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> added to 1 drop of the oil in 20 drops CS <sub>2</sub>	Intense purple fading in fifteen minutes	Well marked purple, fading more slowly	Well marked purple, fading more slowly
HNO <sub>3</sub> (B.P. test)	Very faint albumen ring in six hours	Well marked albumen ring formed in about six hours	Well marked albumen ring formed in six hours

**Specific Gravity.**—The limits of the British Pharmacopœia cannot well be modified without the possible exclusion of some genuine oils, for in our experience they may vary from 0.922 to 0.929, although the majority of the samples fall between 0.925 and 0.928.

**Refractive Index.**—As our experiments on this constant have only been made on a limited number of samples we are not able to speak with any degree of certainty, but it does appear that a minimum limit might be fixed of 1.4810,

above which, at 15° C., so far as we have determined, the refractive index of all pure oils falls.

**Saponification-value.**—In fine oils this varies from 179 to 198, but the figures above recorded clearly indicate that this would be of little value in differentiating between cod-liver oil and other fish-liver oils. In a letter published in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (June 6, 1903) a Newfoundland oil was stated to have a saponification-number of 231.7, and yet to answer all the requirements of the German Pharmacopœia (IV). This is not in accordance with our interpretation of the latter authority, which we find on calculation gives a maximum of 196.

**Iodine-number.**—The limits given for this constant in the German Pharmacopœia are 140–152, with a period of four hours for absorption. The best oils usually give a higher figure than those which have been exposed to air and light, but in our experience this constant is not of great value in the case of cod-liver oil, the published figures for which show great variation.

The **Nitric-acid Test**, carried out as described in the British Pharmacopœia with acid of sp. gr. 1.42, should give a well-marked albumen ring in five to six hours. This is a useful test for excluding substitutes when time is not a matter of importance.

The **Free Fatty Acids** are best determined by the method devised by Hofmann, which consists in dissolving a few grams of oil in neutral ether and titrating with alcoholic potash, using an alcoholic solution of rosolic acid as an indicator. The acidity calculated as oleic acid should not exceed 1 per cent. for oils prepared by the steam-process.

**Melting-point of Fatty Acids.**—It is obvious that this will be influenced by the completeness of the removal of solid fat from the oil, but in the samples of non-congealing oils that we have examined the melting-point of fatty acids appears to fall fairly constantly between the limits of 23° C. and 26° C., though rarely exceeding 25° C.

**Various Colour-reactions** have been put forward from time to time as indications of the purity or otherwise of cod-liver oil, but so far as we have been able to determine these tests are not by any means satisfactory, on account of the complicated colour-changes which occur on standing. The violet colour produced by sulphuric acid has been stated to be due to the presence of cholesterol, and also to another substance which gives an indigo-blue colour with sulphuric acid. The only colour-test that we have been able to utilise is that official in the German Pharmacopœia, which appears to possess an advantage over that in the British Pharmacopœia, in that the oil tested is dissolved in carbon bisulphide, and a uniform violet colour immediately results.

It is evident from the above that the fish-liver oil can be distinguished from cod-liver oil unmixed, and we are extending our experiments with a view to determining how small proportions of fish-liver oil can be detected in cod-liver oil. We are of opinion that the refractive index will prove a valuable factor in detecting this and other impurities in cod-liver oil, and it will be useful if analysts will publish figures that have been obtained for other commercial samples.

**FERTILISERS FROM THE AIR** was one of Sir William Crookes's dreams. He produced nitric acid (mentally) by the electric spark. Dr. A. Frank, of Charlottenburg, has gone to the same fertilising goal by a different way, and described his discovery to the recent Congress of Applied Chemistry. He does not consider that plants want nitrates or ammonium sulphate more than any other assimilable form of nitrogen, and he finds in calcium cyanamide 14 to 22 per cent. of nitrogen. In contact with water the amide yields urea, so that if used as a fertiliser it acts quickly and well. The amide is made by means of the electric furnace in a similar manner to calcium carbide, nitrogen from the air being absorbed in the process. It is patented.



## Strychnine for Morphine.

ON Tuesday, June 30, Dr. F. J. Waldo, the City Coroner, resumed the inquiry, at the City Mortuary, Golden Lane, E.C., with reference to the death of Henry Harris (50), a carpet-designer, who died on June 12, in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, from strychnine-poisoning. The evidence taken at the opening of the inquest on June 15 was reported in the *C. & D.*, June 19. Mr. Rupert Smyth appeared on behalf of Messrs. Vines & Froom, chemists, 75 Aldersgate Street, and for Mr. John Herbert Atkins, their assistant.

Mr. Andres Maciel, playwright and journalist, recalled, stated that the time the deceased was taken ill in the public-house was 8.30.

The Coroner said that in view of what the analysis had proved the question of the time was very important.

In further examination, witness said that at the hospital he and the deceased were left alone for some time, and during that period the deceased craved for water, and he gave him at least twenty tumblers full, which he drank as if dying of thirst. (Sensation.)

The Coroner: Did no one stop you?

Witness: No one was present to do so.

The Coroner: But twenty glasses is an immense quantity; are you sure about it?

Witness: Yes; and I only stopped because I got tired. I fetched it from a tap in the room.

The Coroner: Did it not occur to you that so much water must be wrong?

Witness: He begged me to, and he was a dying—a poisoned man. I could not refuse him anything.

The Coroner: The doctor told us he was frightened of water.

Witness: He drank all I gave him.

Dr. Harold Wale, house physician at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, said that a little reflection would show the impossibility of the witness's story. Twenty tumblers would represent about ten pints, and no man even for a bet could drink that quantity in the time, besides which only a sixth of that quantity of fluid was found in the body after death, and none passed before.

Cross-examined by Mr. Smyth, Dr. Wale said that when the deceased was admitted he was told the story of a chemist's mistake, and examined the deceased on that. He failed to detect a single symptom of any known poison, and temporarily came to the conclusion that the story was a delusion.

Dr. Frederick Womack, analyst to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, deposed to finding strychnine in the contents of the stomach, and said that death was due to strychnine-poisoning. He was examined by the Coroner as to the difference in taste between morphine and strychnine, and, in reply to questions put by Mr. Smyth, admitted that the man's life might have been saved if he had been treated for strychnine-poisoning on arrival; but the morphine he had got as an antidote had modified its action.

Mr. Wm. Hy. Froom, registered chemist, 75 and 197 Aldersgate Street, stated that he had been in business fifty-one years, and his family for three generations covered 103 years as chemists, and this was the first case of a mistake he had ever had. The assistant had been with him eighteen months, and was fully qualified and had excellent references as a steady, sober man. He had known the deceased as a customer for twenty years, but never knew his name. He used to believe the deceased had some connection with chemistry, for he would bring his morphia-bottles already labelled, with the inscription in Latin. It was the usual custom of the deceased to purchase an ounce at a time, but at times he would have more.

The Coroner: Is there anything in the Act that forbids you serving laymen?

Witness: Oh, no—nothing; although I believe the deceased was about our only customer for morphia.

Continuing, Mr. Froom said that on the evening in question the deceased entered the shop, and Mr. Atkins went to serve him. As the assistant returned with the bottle witness took it from him, and said he would label it, and the assistant went on preparing a plaster. Witness labelled the bottle, and the deceased paid him for it. He believed the deceased

removed the cork and drank some, and then said something to the assistant, who took back the bottle and asked witness what he had better do to counteract the strychnine.

The Coroner: Then it was known at the time that strychnine had been given?

Witness: Oh, yes, and I believe the deceased was given some morphia.

The Coroner: How did the mistake arise?

Witness: Well, the assistant neglected the rules. He should have gone to the poisons-cupboard for the morphia, instead of which he went to the stock-bottles.

The Coroner: Are the strychnine and morphia bottles alike?

Witness: Yes; and the poisons look the same.

The Coroner: Did you speak to the deceased?

Witness: When I turned to do so he had left the shop, and we did not know his name or address.

The Coroner: Then we may take it that from the start you were aware of the mistake?

Witness: Oh, yes.

Mr. John Herbert Atkins, having been cautioned by the Coroner, said he was registered about two and a half years ago, and had had twelve and a half years' experience. He was not the regular assistant at the shop, but the dispenser, and was assisting at the counter, which would account for the deceased saying a strange assistant served him. He had served the deceased once before, and it was the custom to serve known customers, but he would not serve indiscriminately. If he did not know the person, he would refer to Mr. Froom, as he did the first time he served the deceased. On the evening of June 12 the deceased asked him for 3 oz. of solution of morphia hydrochlorate diluted with 1 oz. of water. It being a large quantity, witness went to the stock-cupboard for it, and must have taken down the wrong bottle. The Coroner here questioned witness as to how this came about, and witness suggested that the bottles had got mixed in the dusting. When he went to replace the bottle he noticed the mistake, and at once set about retrieving the error. He gave deceased some morphia as an antidote, but did not send for a doctor, as he was hurried and excited, and the deceased left the shop hurriedly.

A Juryman: That sounds peculiar, not to know the deceased's name or address if the deceased was a twenty-years' customer. Were you aware when the deceased left the shop that he had a fatal dose of strychnine inside him?

Witness: I was not sure he had drunk any at all. I gave him the morphia in case he had.

A Juryman: I understood Mr. Maciel on the last occasion said he left the deceased at the hospital and went to the chemist's to see what mistake had occurred.

The Coroner: I am afraid Mr. Maciel was also excited that evening, and we must make allowances.

The Juryman: But my point is if the chemists knew the mistake and got a messenger from the hospital, how is it they did not at once go and explain everything?

Dr. Wale: You must not forget that the deceased was dead in less than three-quarters of an hour.

The Coroner: I see the juryman's question, but we have no evidence that Mr. Maciel went to the chemist's that night.

In answer to Mr. Smyth, the witness said that he passed his examinations with extra marks on every subject. He had acted for years as a dispenser, so was fully acquainted with all drugs. He could recollect that the deceased said he was in a hurry to keep an appointment, so that possibly he served him hurriedly.

The Coroner: That would be evidence more against him than in his favour. Tell me, are we to take it that you gave the deceased 3 oz. of strychnine solution, believing it was morphia, and diluted it with 1 oz. of water?

Witness: Yes, that would be correct.

The Coroner: We have no evidence of the quantity he drank, for the bottle was empty. Mr. Froom, what did the assistant say was in the bottle for you to know which label to use?

Mr. Froom: He did not say anything. I saw whom he was serving, so you might say I took for it granted it was morphia.

The Foreman: Then for all you knew it might have been anything?

Mr. Froom: I knew he bought nothing else but morphia.



Mr. Smyth (to the witness): Why did you afterwards give him morphia?

Witness: If you look at "Martindale" or "Squire," you will see that 8 gr. of morphia will neutralise 1 gr. of strychnine—that is, I am speaking from memory. I was told the deceased drank about a teaspoonful, but it is quite untrue that he remonstrated with me, or said the mixture was "harsh and fiery."

The Coroner: And you tell the jury that when you were filling the deceased's bottle with strychnine you were fully in the belief that you were dispensing morphia?

Witness: Yes. I have never made a mistake before, and cannot yet realise how this occurred.

Dr. Harold Wale, again recalled, said that he had no doubt now that the deceased died of strychnine-poisoning. The fit would thus be accounted for, and his fear of water.

Mr. Smyth: Supposing you had been told the deceased had had strychnine, would you not have given morphia as the antidote?

Witness: There is more than one way of dealing with strychnine-poisoning, but no drug is a recognised antidote for strychnine. Of all drugs I should use morphia for choice, but it would not make the patient sick.

Mr. Smyth: You gave the deceased a purge; what was it?

Witness: I could not say now; it would be in the hospital books.

Mr. Smyth: But I wish to know.

The Coroner: As an old hospital surgeon I know the witness could not answer such a question among the hundreds of cases he has treated.

Mr. Smyth: He is as much right to know as we have. What would have been said if we did not remember?

The Coroner: The positions are different.

Mr. Wm. Thomas, chemist and druggist, 105 and 107 Talbot Road, Bayswater, and 126 Upper Street, Islington, said he had come forward voluntarily to speak for Mr. Atkins, who was in his employ for four years, and made up between 80,000 and 90,000 prescriptions in that period without a single mistake. He also found him a most reliable, trustworthy dispenser, and publicly wished to express his sympathy with him in his present position.

Mr. Reece gave similar testimony.

The Coroner said the facts were now so clearly established as not to require any lengthy address from him on the matter except to explain the law of manslaughter. If a person killed another without malice aforethought, but through gross or culpable negligence, then that person was guilty of manslaughter. On the other hand, if the jury thought Mr. Atkins had not been guilty of culpable negligence, but had made a sad mistake, then it could be said to be a case of misadventure. If, however, the jury were not satisfied to say either way, they could return a verdict that would leave the matter open.

After a few moments' consultation without leaving the jury-box, the foreman said the jury were unanimously agreed on a verdict of death by misadventure, and they would like to add a rider expressing their deep sympathy with the relatives, and also with Mr. Atkins and with his employers (Messrs. Vines & Froom).

The Coroner: You are, then, agreed that Mr. Atkins did make a mistake, but that it was through no negligence on his part?

The Foreman: Yes; a mistake any of us might make.

On the verdict being announced Mr. Atkins was at once surrounded with sympathetic friends, but seemed in too dazed a condition to appreciate the result of the inquiry.

**OPIUM IN THE PHILIPPINES.**—As mentioned in the *C. & D.* June 20, page 973, the opium-traffic in the Philippines is to be regulated by law. Further particulars to hand state that it shall be unlawful for any person not a Chinese over the age of 21 to smoke, chew, swallow, inject, or otherwise consume opium as a narcotic, except when prescribed as a medicine by a fully licensed physician. Even a Chinaman cannot use opium except in his own residence. Violation is punishable by a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or by imprisonment not to exceed five years. It is also provided that the exclusive right to import and prepare opium and sell or give the same to Chinese persons shall be awarded every three years to the highest and best bidder under such regulations as may be prescribed by the insular collector of customs.

## Practical Notes and Formulæ.

### SYRUP. MAG. SULPH.

WHEN magnesium sulphate is exhibited the objectionable taste is fairly concealed by syrup of raspberry in a formula such as this:—

Magnesiæ sulph. ... .. ʒiv.  
Syr. rubi idæi ad ... .. ʒij.

Dose: A teaspoonful; representing 1 dr. of the salt.

This syrup is suitable either for children or adults.

*Brooklyn Medical Journal.*

### OLEUM PHOSPHORATUM.

At a recent meeting of the Austrian Pharmaceutical Society the oxidation of phosphorus in phosphorised oil was discussed by Kremel, who gave the results of experiments, which demonstrated that the addition of 5 per cent. of absolute alcohol is excellent for preserving the oil. He also showed that olive oil is much better than almond oil as a solvent, and recommended that olive oil should be adopted by the next Pharmacopœia.—(*Pharm. Post*, 1903, 291.)

### ECZEMA IN BABIES.

In average cases, where moderate stimulation of the skin is required, the following is recommended:

Zinci oxidi ... .. ʒij.  
Ung. picis liquidæ ... .. ʒss.  
Ung. aq. rosæ... .. ʒss.  
Lacolin. ... .. ʒj.

M. Ft. ung.

This is Starr's formula, and is approved by Little in the *Brooklyn Medical Journal* of recent date.

### DEPOSIT IN VINUM COLCHICI.

PROFESSOR H. KUNS-KRAUSE, Ph.D., at a recent pharmaceutical meeting in Dresden, described a crystalline deposit which had been found in colchicum-wine (made with sherry). Half a kilogram of the wine yielded 20 centigrams of the crystals, which, on examination, were found to be calcium tartrate,  $C_6H_4CaO_6 \cdot 4H_2O$ . The author considers that the deposit is the result of plastering the wine with calcium sulphate, which reacts with the potassium bitartrate natural to the wine (*Apoth. Zeit.*, No. 28, 314). This, we may observe, has previously been noted.

### AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS OF MENTHOL.

ALTHOUGH very soluble in alcohol, menthol will not dissolve in water when charged with even a large proportion of alcohol. The moment a quantity of water is added to an alcoholic solution of menthol re-crystallisation takes place and the menthol floats on the solution. M. de Cresantignes (*Bulletin du Syndicat régional des pharmaciens du Nord de la France*) obviates this result, and obtains satisfactory aqueous solutions of menthol by the addition of a small quantity of tincture of quillaia. For a mixture he recommends the following formula:

Menthol ... .. 0.03 to 0.05 gram  
Tincture of quillaia ... .. 5 gram  
Glycerin ... .. 10 gram  
Distilled water to ... .. 125 c.c.

Dissolve the menthol in the tincture, add the glycerin, and then the water in small quantities, shaking all the time. The glycerin is not indispensable, but it helps the action of the tincture.

The following is used for compresses:

Menthol ... .. 0.15 to 0.30 gram  
Tincture of quillaia ... .. 10 gram  
Distilled water to ... .. 155 c.c.

For a gargle or mouth-wash the following is recommended:

Menthol ... .. 0.10 to 0.20 gram  
Tincture of quillaia ... .. 20 gram  
Water (or saturated solution of boric acid) to ... .. 1 litre

There is little novel in this method of emulsification, but hitherto it has not often been used for menthol.



## Reviews.

*Double-entry, or the Principle of Perfect Bookkeeping.* By ERNEST HOLAH. 4th edition.  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$ . Pp. 71. 2s. London: Effingham Wilson.

THIS little work by Mr. Holah, although not professing to be an exhaustive and detailed treatise on the science of bookkeeping, gives the busy business man (who has, perhaps, not had an "office training") a thorough idea of a simple and accurate way of keeping accounts. This is the sort of book the ordinary pharmacist in business stands much in need of, and that its uses are not overlooked is shown by the fact that the present issue is the fourth edition. It is an unpretentious but practical, clear, and concise exposition of the principles originated by Lucas di Burgo more than 500 years ago, and practised, with variations, at the present day.

*First Years of Office Work.* By W. G. CORDINGLEY.  $6\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4}$ . Pp. 84. 2s. London: Effingham Wilson.

MR. CORDINGLEY'S book is a *vade mecum* for the despised office-boy. It points out plainly and concisely some of the more important things that will be required of the youth at the beginning of his commercial career. It deals with the small things of the office, those all-important matters of detail upon which so much of the success of a business depends, and the acquisition of which in perfection forms the most efficient groundwork for a successful commercial future. The book is intended to indicate to the intelligent youth how to "get on," and if he follows all the good advice, and obeys the instructions given in the book, he will become a paragon such as grey-haired cashiers sigh for—often in vain.

*The Medical Annual: A Year-book of Treatment and Practitioners' Index.* 7s. 6d. Bristol, 1903: John Wright & Co.

THERE are nearly 700 pages of abstracts and monographs respecting last year's medical and surgical literature and progress in this volume—the twenty-first of the series. The publishers have the good fortune to get assistance from thirty-four practitioners who are recognised as experts in their departments, and who write on their own subjects. Money is not spared in adequate illustration, and new processes are employed to reproduce in colour or monochrome cases which exhibit special features. To say that the 1903 *Annual* is ahead of the twenty before it means little: it is bigger and better—better because the monographs show a higher degree of finish, and give full references to the original papers. For dispensing-chemists who wish to have therapeutic progress in a compact form to keep at their doctors' prescription-desk, there is nothing we can so well recommend as this annual.

*A Manual of Toxicology.* By ALBERT H. BRUNDAGE, A.M., M.D., Phar.D. Crown 8vo. Pp. viii + 375. 6s. net. New York: The Henry Harrison Company. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox.

A RED-COVERED, red-edged, and round-cornered book intended for physicians and pharmacists. It is divided into two parts and an appendix; the essential part is the second. In it the symptoms and treatment of poisoning are described in 164 pages. The text is rather conventional and lacking in originality. What is the use, we wonder, of giving a person who has taken oxalic acid lime-water as an antidote? Half an ounce of the acid would need a gallon or two of lime-water to neutralise it; but the author of this book, fearful apparently of the lime-water being too strong, suggests that it should be diluted with an equal quantity of pure water. This and much else in Part II. indicate that the book is a compilation rather lacking in that conciseness which should be imparted by practical experience to hand-books on poisoning. It is not full enough for use as a book of reference nor sufficiently concise and explicit for quick help in emergencies. The author may get into trouble for some of his guesses at what proprietary medicines contain—e.g., he says Mrs. Winslow's soothing-syrup contains 1 gr. of morphine in the ounce:  $\frac{1}{2}$  gr. of a morphine salt per oz. is nearer the mark. On the whole, a dear 6s. worth.

*County Court Practice Made Easy; or, Debt Collection Simplified.* By A SOLICITOR.  $7\frac{1}{4} \times 5$ . Pp. 152. E.I. II. 2s. 6d. London: Effingham Wilson.

THIS little handbook explains in clear and non-technical language all that the business man or his clerk needs to know concerning the steps to be taken in the county court for the enforcement of the payment of debts. To the ordinary tradesman, "putting a debtor in the county court" is a troublesome and worrying proceeding, the technicalities to be observed in the process being to the uninitiated apparently interminable. Solicitors are averse, on account of the low fees recoverable, to taking up petty-debt recovery actions, so the book under discussion essays to make every man his own solicitor—at least, so far as petty-debt actions, with no points of law to be discussed, are concerned. We venture to think this book will be a boon to many a harassed and justly incensed creditor who is unable to recover the just payment due for his goods. Pharmacists with a "family connection" have occasionally one or two black sheep on their books, who are often unwilling rather than unable to pay, and the treatment of such up to committal to prison is set forth in detail.

*The New Zealand Official Year-book, 1902.* Eleventh issue. Prepared by E. J. VON DAELSSEN, Registrar-General, Wellington, N.Z. Pp. 696. Illus. Eyre & Spottiswoode.

THIS latest issue of the *New Zealand Year-book* is replete with information concerning the Colony, its agricultural, mining, and other industries, its inhabitants, and their condition. Most of the information is necessarily given in tabulated form, but there is a goodly proportion of descriptive text. Besides a general description of the islands, the book contains reports upon population, education, agriculture, mining, manufactures, transportation, lands, taxation, and Government revenue and expenditure. It is interesting to note that there are eight chemical-factories in New Zealand, five of which are situated in Otago. There are also eight herbal-remedy factories, one perfume-factory, three sheep-dip factories, and two cocoanut-oil mills. The imports of drugs, chemicals, and druggists' wares in 1901 amounted to 212,430*l.*, and patent medicines 33,661*l.* The export of kauri gum in 1901 was 7,541 tons, valued at 446,114*l.*, or an average of 59*l.* 3s. 2d. per ton. Full information as to the uses of this resin and the kauri-gum industry generally is given in a special article in Part III. of the *Year-book* for 1900. It embraces interesting matter from the report of the Royal Commission which investigated the whole subject in 1898.

*A Text-book of Quantitative Chemical Analysis.* By FRANK JULIAN. 8vo. Pp. 600. \$6 net. St. Paul, Minn., U.S.A.: The Ramsey Publishing Company.

THIS work will, we think, meet a want which is sometimes felt by practical chemists who make no pretence to specialising in any department of analysis, yet who require a concise chemical library. It would meet, for example, the requirements of the Minor man of scientific tastes, or who is called upon now and then to advise in regard to industrial chemistry. The first 190 pages, comprising Part 1, are educative, and deal chiefly with methods of quantitative analysis, and this in such a way as to make the book suitable for self-instruction. Part 2 is supplemental to this, and gives in two dozen exercises typical analyses of varied substances, and these are the means of giving the operator those hints which are generally looked for from an experienced analyst. In Part 3 (to quote from the preface) "is considered the analytical behaviour of a number of articles of commercial importance. It has been attempted to outline the most approved methods for their analysis and to annotate some others that are of interest from their promise of future development or as suggesting the application of less familiar principles." Here one gets more than a nodding acquaintance with the analyses of industrial chemicals, foods, ores, water, fertilisers, drugs, and urine. We like the book, but regret that the author germanises such words as "sulphate" in the uncultured manner of some American chemists, and that he neglects the cipher in fractional decimals.